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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

TRUSTING TO LUCK.

In private life, we often hear of persons who, "trusting to their luck," and absolving themselves from all further care, yet manage to prosper. Men of this class are puzzles to themselves as well as to all who watch their conduct. They commit blunders enough to incur ruin twenty times over, yet they are not ruined. They rush into mistakes, which, somehow or other, and contrary to all probability and to the experience of all ordinary persons, work to their positive advantage instead of to their discomfiture. They grow rich and powerful in spite of the stupidest errors and the most culpable negligence. They toss up with Fortune, and always win. They cry "head" twenty times in succession, and twenty times the coin shows the head as they hazarded to guess. They grow fat and indolent, and learn to rely—not upon courage or upon prudence, like the rest of the world—but upon

the "luck" which they do not deserve and which never seems to forsake them. But "luck" like this is unsafe, and always proves treacherous at last. The twenty-first time it is not "head" but "tail" which turns up. The pitcher goes as usual to the well, but is broken when such a calamity was least to have been expected. The fabric of success and prosperity falls and vanishes in a day; and the spoiled child of fortune, reduced to beggary, finds no sympathy in the hour of distress, but is met on every side with the cold comfort that his fate was exactly what was to have been anticipated, and that he is rightly served for the wilful neglect of great opportunities, and for his stolid, if not insolent, defiance of repeated warning.

Of a character very similar has hitherto been the government of India by Great Britain. We gained that magnificent appanage of empire—the noblest ever held by any State or Potentate recorded in ancient or modern history—by a succession of brilliant achieve-

ments on the part of men who were either unsupported or thwarted by the authorities at home. Province after province, kingdom after kingdom, has fallen into our hands, with scarcely a wish on our parts that it should be so. From the possession of a small factory, held by a company of traders, we have gone on increasing for upwards of a century, from the day of Plassy to the day of Delhi, deposing and pensioning Kings, annexing their territories, and becoming by sure degrees the absolute lords and masters of one hundred and fifty millions of people, and of the fairest and richest dominion on the globe. So brilliant has been our destiny, and so little have we done to merit it by the exercise of the virtues befitting such a trust, that we have looked upon it as our destiny to possess India, without considering that it was our duty to govern it on the principles of justice, and by the display of any qualities of mind sufficient to retain what the sword may have acquired. With our ordinary



THE CONSERVATORY, ALTON TOWERS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

Letters from Plombières speak in the most favourable terms of the health of the Emperor. His Majesty passes much of his time in excursions to the neighbouring towns and villages, where the warmest welcome ever awaits him on the part of the inhabitants. On Sunday the Emperor visited Erival, where he dined: on the previous day he had honoured St. Loup with his presence.

The official silence maintained respecting a plot against the Emperor's life has at length been broken. On this subject the *Moniteur* of Wednesday contains the following:—

For more than a month the police has had proof that a plot had been formed in London to make an attempt on the life of the Emperor. Three Italians, charged with the execution of this horrible project, were at Paris, and arrested. The arms also which were to have been used for the perpetration of the crime have been seized. They consist of poniards, revolvers, &c. Brought to justice, the prisoners had already confessed their crime, and revealed the names of their accomplices. The Government, notwithstanding, suspended the proceedings against them, in order that the éclat of the process might not be regarded as a means of influencing the result of the elections which were about to take place. The proceedings are now resumed, and an ordinance of the Judge of Instruction has sent before the Chamber of Accusation all the prisoners arrested, with their accomplices. Their names are Tibaldi, Bartolotti, Grilli (otherwise Saro), Mazzini, Ledru Rollin, Mazarenti, and Campanella.

Béranger (whose death, on the 16th inst., was briefly noticed in this Journal last week) is still the principal topic of conversation in Paris. His grave is every day visited by thousands; portraits of the national poet are to be seen in every shop-window; and little commemorative medals are everywhere being sold in the streets. The newspapers, too, are full of his biography, and his songs have even acquired an additional popularity.

In the *Moniteur* of Friday week appeared an announcement of the poet's death, and of the intention of Government to give to the illustrious deceased a State funeral—by which cunningly devised scheme the Government, taking upon itself the charge of the funeral, was enabled to hurry his remains to the grave with indecent haste, and to prepare against any popular demonstration which it was supposed the occasion might evoke. The article referred to (dated the previous day) is as follows:—

France has just experienced a mournful bereavement. Béranger this day (Thursday, July 16) sunk beneath a protracted and cruel disease. The Emperor, willing to honour the memory of this national poet, whose works have contributed so powerfully to maintain the prevalence of patriotic sentiments in France, and to popularise the glory of the Empire, has determined that the cost of his funeral shall be defrayed out of the Imperial Civil List. The obsequies of Béranger will take place at noon to-morrow (Friday, July 17).

A proclamation of the Prefect of Police also appeared in the *Moniteur*, and was placarded about, stating that "The Government would not allow a tumultuous manifestation to be substituted for the respectful and patriotic mourning which ought to preside at Béranger's funeral."

At an early hour on Friday (as though the remains of some military despot, instead of those of the poet of the people, were about to be consigned to the tomb) immense masses of troops were stationed in the Place de la Bastille, the Place du Château d'Eau, and on the Boulevard Beaumarchais, opposite the Rue Charlot—a street which is crossed a few yards down by the Rue Vendôme, in which Béranger lived. All the approaches to his house were kept by troops. In the Rue de la Roquette and the environs of the Père la Chaise Cemetery a very strong force was drawn up. No less than eight divisions, each commanded by a General of Division, were engaged in the service, and many more troops were under arms in barracks ready to turn out, if wanted. Marshal Magnan commanded the force in person.

Crowds, continually increasing in numbers as the hour of noon approached, flocked towards the line along which the funeral procession was expected to pass. The public was allowed to line the way without molestation, but not to follow the official mourners. Nothing could be more orderly or proper than the general demeanour of the crowd. Medals were sold in the streets bearing Béranger's effigy, and on the observe, "A Béranger, le poète national, l'honnête citoyen." Vast numbers of operatives wore little sprigs of yellow immortelles. The house of No. 5, Rue Vendôme, was hung with black, and the coffin was exposed for a certain time in the doorway, according to French custom, priests murmuring prayers and sprinkling holy water. Only a few intimate friends were admitted to the death-chamber. The rest of the persons invited assembled outside the house. At a few minutes past twelve the procession was in motion. The hearse, which was elegant but simple, was profusely covered with oak-branches, laurels, and crowns of immortelles. The chief mourners were MM. Perrotin and Benjamin Antier, friends of the deceased, and two of his cousins, his only relations in Paris. General Cotte, one of his Majesty's aides-de-camp, represented the Emperor. Several Ministers and foreign Ambassadors were present, MM. Thiers, Mignet, Villemain, Cousin, de Vigny, St. Marc Girardin, &c., formed a deputation from the Institute. There were in all about 200 or 300 followers, of whom not more than two or three were workmen. A body of 500 sergens de ville closed the procession. The coffin was taken to the Church of St. Elizabeth, in the Rue du Temple, where the usual funeral service was performed. On leaving the church the cortege did not follow the line expected, along the Boulevards to the Bastille, but simply crossed the boulevard opposite the Rue des Filles du Calvaire, and took the Rue Menilmontant. Cries of "Honneur à Béranger!" "Gloire à Béranger!" were frequently uttered by the people. No one but those invited was allowed to enter the cemetery. By the wish of the deceased, no speech was pronounced over the grave. Although the funeral was over by two o'clock, the troops were still bivouacked in the Place de la Bastille and the Château d'Eau as late as four o'clock, as if the authorities were determined not to abandon the ground until the crowds had entirely dispersed.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the illustrious deceased on the part of the French Government, the Prefect of Police has directed that the name of the street in which Béranger lived shall be changed, and the Rue Vendôme will in future be the Rue Béranger.

Lord Palmerston's speech on the Isthmus of Suez question has raised a perfect storm of opposition on the part of the French Government journals. They express a confident belief that public opinion in England will compel the Premier to abandon the position he has assumed.

The Algerian difficulty would seem to be settled—for the present, at least. Marshal Randon sends a despatch from Fort Napoleon, under date of the 15th inst., stating that affairs were completely settled, and that the troops were on their return to their cantonments.

SPAIN.

In the Spanish Senate and Chamber of Deputies on the 16th the Royal decree closing the Session was read, and the members of both immediately dispersed with cries of "Long live the Queen!" The Session was prolonged far beyond expectation, by the exertions of the Government. It lasted two months and a half—a little more than fifty days, Sundays and festivals being deducted. In this short time the Constitution of 1845 has been "reformed;" a new and most draconian law on the press has been authorised, although not discussed; the frontier treaty with France has been ratified; a law of public instruction, placing this in the hands of the clergy, has been voted; also a law of criminal procedure, and one concerning roads, centralising the direction of these in the hands of Government. A host of measures adopted by the Narvaez Cabinet previously to the elections, and some of which were of an unconstitutional nature, have received the sanction and approval of these pliant Cortes.

The session of 1858 will open in September next.

In the south a sort of Bloody Assize is being held. Twenty-four insurgents were shot at Seville at the same time as Caro, the chief of the insurgent band. Lavallo, one of Caro's lieutenants, and some other insurgents, were executed at Utrera, being natives of that place. During the execution at Seville detachments of troops occupied certain strategic points, but the public were allowed to collect so near the place of execution that two or three of them were wounded by the balls fired at the prisoners. At Arahall and other places executions had also taken place, the total number of insurgents thus shot being forty-five. Not fewer than seventy-four new prisoners had arrived at Seville to be tried by court-martial. Arrests were continuing in that city, and also in Malaga and Navarre. It has been ascertained that one of the chiefs of the conspiracy was Narciso de la Escosura, brother of the ex-Minister, but he has escaped to Lisbon, as has also another chief, Sisto Cámara. At Madrid arrests had ceased, and Colonel del Riego, one of the persons arrested, had been set at liberty, but had been exiled to Aranda de Duero. The insurrectionary movements of the last few months are stated to have produced the arrest of 1549 persons by the Spanish Government.

ITALY.

The Legislative Session of the Piedmontese Chambers was closed on the 16th inst. On this subject the *Piedmontese Gazette* of the 17th says:—

The Legislative Session opened on the 27th of January and closed yesterday leaves an agreeable and lasting impression on account of the importance of the questions treated, the utility of the measures adopted, and the interest of the discussions. This Session affords a brilliant proof of the progress made by our country in a short space of time in the practice of representative institutions. The laws for the fortifications of Alessandria, the transfer of the naval arsenal to La Spezia, and the new law on military conscription have provided for the organisation of the national forces and defences. The law which abolishes the usury laws is a new step in economical science. The laws on public instruction, on ground-rents, on the reform of prisons, and many others, have consecrated important improvements in public administration. We will conclude with mentioning the law for the Ligurian Railroad, extending from the frontier line of the Var to that of Modena, and the law for the perforation of Mount Cenis, a colossal project which, as an English paper has happily expressed it, is worthy of ancient Rome and modern England.

Letters from Naples, of the 16th inst., state that the rebels are to be tried by the Royal Court of Palermo, instead of by court-martial. The reason for this decision is that some of the prisoners of Ponza were forced to join the insurrection by threats. Several men who refused to march are said to have been shot by order of Pisciagno. The second in command of the rebels, Baron Nicotera, an ex-functionary, who took part in the insurrection of 1848, and who was then banished, is among the wounded prisoners.

Proclamations hostile to the Neapolitan Government continue to circulate.

HOLLAND.

The Second Chamber of Holland has voted the principal clauses of the bill on primary instruction. This bill ratifies the principle of tolerance and the separation of Church and State. The revision of the judicial organisation will probably be postponed. The Government is preparing a bill on the medical service. The sum to be paid by Holland for the redemption of the Sound Dues amounts to 1,408,060 rix-dalers (about two francs ten sous each).

PORTUGAL.

On the 11th inst. his Majesty Dom Pedro V. closed the Session of the Cortes in person. His Majesty thanked the Peers and Deputies for the zeal and ability they had displayed in the treatment of the important questions brought before them. He also lamented that the necessarily limited time at the disposal of the Cortes had not permitted them to adopt measures for the development of a system of national instruction. He then alluded to the proposed railway to Oporto, calling the enterprise the most important brought before the notice of the House—one calculated to do immense good to the northern provinces of Portugal, and promised to do all in his power to assist Government in carrying out the undertaking. His Majesty also thanked the House for the cordial manner in which they had responded to his message, stating that he was meditating the selection of a partner in the throne. After a few concluding remarks the Session of 1857 was declared closed, and the King retired, as he had entered, accompanied by the officers of the Court.

The concordat has been passed with large majorities of both Peers and Deputies, but four of the important clauses have been altered.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor and Empress of Austria set out on the 17th inst. for Mariatzell, in Styria. The Emperor is to be at Trieste on the 27th, to inaugurate the railway. His Majesty will afterwards resume his journey to Hungary. The Archduke Maximilian was to leave Vienna on the 20th, on his return to Brussels.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

Letters from Bucharest describe the results of the late municipal elections as favourable to Government. This is important, since both parties put forth their entire strength with the view of trying their respective chances for the Divans' elections, which are to commence before long. The triumph of Prince Demetrius Ghika is another blow to the hopes of the union party. Despatches from the Danubian Principalities inclose petitions of the Moldavians against the illegal proceedings of the Turkish authorities with regard to the elections.

UNITED STATES.

The celebration of American independence (on July 4th) passed off with great éclat generally throughout the country. At New York, however, a desperate riot broke out. The conflict began on Saturday, in the Sixth Ward, between two gangs of ruffians—the "Dead Rabbits," and the "Bowery Boys." Firearms were freely used, and seven persons killed and about thirty wounded. On the following evening the fight was renewed, when eleven persons were shot, and many, it is feared, fatally wounded. There were serious affrays, also, in two other wards, many persons, including policemen, being injured. Military aid was called in.

A letter from New York thus graphically describes the scene:—The celebration of the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in this place was varied this year by a disgraceful riot. There is in the Sixth Ward (which may be called the Whitechapel or St. Giles' district of New York) a club of young ruffians, known as the Dead Rabbit Club. There has long been a feud between them and what are known as the Bowery Boys. The old police organisation was disbanded on Friday, the day before the celebration; the new was not yet sufficiently organised, and these people took advantage of the interregnum to have a pitched battle. The Boweries boldly charged into the midst of the Dead Rabbits, who received them pistols and muskets in hand. Double-barrelled guns were at a premium; and one of the combatants, more fortunate than the others, brought up a howitzer for service, but it was ignominiously captured before it could be got into action. Barricades were formed across the streets. Woman lent more than the influence of her presence to cheer the combatants: from the surrounding housetops the negro and Irish women hurled bricks and chimney-tops indiscriminately below. The police interiered to prevent a successful termination of the Kilkenny cat game, and were driven back. Three regiments were called out, two armed with the Minie rifle, and twelve rounds to a man. The display stopped the riot without further bloodshed. The hospitals are filled with the wounded.

A renewal of the riots occurred on the evening of the 8th, and two of the "rowdies" were shot by the police. On the 11th there were two more victims—one of whom was clubbed, and the other shot. Fifteen persons belonging to the "Dead Rabbit" party have been found guilty of manslaughter by the coroner's jury.

Five of the persons engaged in the "Plug Ugly" election riot at Washington, on the 1st of last month, have been convicted. Two of them had fled from justice; the other three were sentenced to one year's imprisonment and a fine of twenty dollars each.

Two serious fires had taken place at Cincinnati. The aggregate loss by these conflagrations is estimated at a quarter of a million dollars. Some 400 persons are thrown out of employment by these disasters. A destructive fire had also broken out at New Orleans, by which eleven stores and property to the amount of nearly half a million of dollars were consumed.

The Hon. W. L. Marcy, late Secretary of State, died suddenly on the 4th inst. The funeral obsequies at Albany, on the 8th, were very imposing.

The Kansas Democratic Convention met at Leocompton on the 2nd inst., when ex-Governor Ransom, of Michigan, was nominated for Congress over Ely Moore by a two-thirds vote. Resolutions endorsing Governor Walker's policy were adopted.

News had been received from Great Salt Lake City on the 27th of May. Brigham Young and party had returned from their expedition to the north, after an absence of sixteen days.

Mr. Reed, the Minister to China, embarked on board the steam-frigate *Minnesota*, on the 3rd inst., and the steamer sailed at midnight on her voyage.

THE COURTS AT KISSINGEN.—A letter from Kissingen of the 17th inst., in the *Nord* of Brussels, says:—"Our little town now resembles a sovereign residence, without, however, the etiquette of Courts. The Emperor and Empress devote themselves entirely to domestic life. Their Majesties dine about half-past two o'clock, and every day a small number of guests have the honour of being invited to the Imperial table. After dinner their Majesties take an excursion in the neighbourhood, and appear in the evening on the promenade, where the band plays from six to eight o'clock, after which there is a private family party. To the number of foreigners of distinction here must be added Count Valentin d'Esterhazy, Austrian Minister at St. Petersburg, who came from Schwalbach to pay his respects to the Emperor. Count de Nesselrode left this morning for Paris, via Brussels. France is represented by the Marquis and Marquise de Lagrange, Austria by the Count and Countess de Mensdorff-Pouilly and the Countess Clam. Prince Gortschakoff, who on his first arrival was suffering from the gout, is now better, and able to appear on the promenade. He is the object of general attention. Count Clam and Count de Kisseleff are the persons with whom he principally converses."

ALTON TOWERS CONSERVATORY.

IN our Journal of last week we described the gardens of the princely seat of Alton Towers. We now engrave the Conservatory, which is approached from the great octagon, by a flight of stone steps, covered with a red russet carpet powdered with small fleurs-de-lis. On reaching the top of these steps, the eye is struck with the beautiful effects produced by the play of the sun's rays upon the foliage, which in profusion from the roof, and drooping gracefully between the several arches, runs down or up, according to the nature of the plant, the sides of the windows. Below the windows, on the floor, are beds filled with exotics and plants in rarest bloom. The first part from the great octagon is in form an irregular octagon, having niches in which, upon pedestals, are placed busts: one of them is that of Napoleon I. In the centre stands an elegant tazza upon a richly-sculptured pillar and tripod base, supported by dolphins—in white marble—which has an air of great elegance on emerging from the less aerial apartment, the octagon. The avenues have figures in white marble, at intervals, on each side, between which run the beds of flowers. The flooring is of encaustic tiles, red and yellow in colour, placed diamondwise along the length. This conservatory forms a beautiful promenade from the galleries to the several drawing-rooms, most of which are on the ground floor. We shall hereafter give the Large or Great Octagon.

The sale at Alton Towers proceeds; and the rarities bring large prices. On Wednesday last was sold one of the most remarkable gems in the collection—a beautiful early Limoges triptych, of metal gilt, and blue, red, and green enamel; in the centre is the Crucifixion, with smaller subjects from the Bible, and figures in circles, above, below, and on the wings, surmounted by Latin texts. This very fine specimen of Limoges was purchased by Mr. Walsby, of Waterloo-place, London, for £365.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK, SYDNEY.—The management of the Commercial Bank, Sydney, vacant by the retirement of Mr. Taylor, was yesterday filled by the appointment of Mr. Zachary Ingold, formerly of Boston, Lincolnshire, so well and favourably known in mercantile circles for many years as accountant of the Bank of Australasia. We are informed that there was a large number of applicants, and from a careful selection of these the present appointment has been made.—*Sydney Herald*.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

ONE of the phenomena of our representative assemblies is the increased fervour of their debates as the weather gets hotter. The right to be considered as the stormy petrel of the Lower House has been disputed with Mr. Roebuck, at least indirectly, by Mr. Gladstone. That right hon. gentleman has broken the silence which he has hitherto preserved in the new Parliament, and seems inclined to make up for a taciturnity which has been remarkable by crowding into the next two or three weeks all the pent-up *copia verborum* of the last three months. Mr. Gladstone is, moreover, not only a profuse and persistent speaker, but he is the cause of speaking in others. There has not been such smart talk among Parliamentary leaders for many a day as on the night when Mr. Roebuck moved a vote of want of confidence in the Government on the subject of the Persian war—a motion which almost every one supported by their voices, but which so few ratified by their votes. Indeed, in the cases of the Attorney-General and Mr. Roebuck, it would seem that the House is always voting against the men, without reference to their measures. It was on this occasion that Mr. Gladstone once more presented himself to the House. When he rose there was an eager straining of necks and eyes on the part of new members, and from most parts of the House (except the Treasury bench) came an encouraging cheer of welcome. The skill of a practised orator, and the impulse of a peculiar temperament, caused him to repay this tribute by a marked deference to the House, and a subdued tone which was gracefully fitted to the occasion. He spoke less rapidly than usual; but if he meant to stimulate debate, and pay off some of that debt which he owes to the Premier, who was the means of putting him on the wrong side of office, he was eminently successful, for Lord Palmerston was evidently nettled at the covert sarcasm which was implied in the comments of a "candid friend." Nevertheless he acutely gave them the go-by, and answered gun for gun all the broadside of Mr. Roebuck, in his most jaunty, and, be it said plainly, most insolent style, only sparing a shot or two for his dear friend Lord John. His attack was, however, easier to be borne by Mr. Roebuck than Mr. Disraeli's defence—so sharp and two-edged were those caustic sentences which, if merely read by an uninitiated person, would seem to be the name of chivalrous candour on the part of a political opponent. They were ostensibly pointed at Palmerston, but they fell full upon Roebuck. Of their effect it is sufficient to say that, perhaps for the first time in his life, Mr. Roebuck did not make a reply. There was a murmur, new, indeed, as applicable to him, that he was, to use a slang but well-understood phrase, "shut up."

Again, on the following night, did Mr. Gladstone stir up a triangular oratorical duel, in which Lord Palmerston and Mr. Disraeli were parties. This time each was hotter and sharper than before. The First Minister, buoyant on the high tide of a tremendous division the night before—which, however, was not in his favour, but against Mr. Roebuck—assumed that haughty, not to say bullying, tone which just now in him alternates with the most submissive acceptances of the wishes of the House when small members are about to put him in a minority on a matter of detail—a course of proceeding which people are beginning to think seriously is putting in jeopardy his influence and his command over the House. Indeed those who witnessed that excited sitting until half past four the other morning (in which one of the great features was the expected determination of Mr. Warren to die on the floor of the House—a sentiment which was naturally much cheered) could easily trace in it the deeds of a Parliamentary revolt, which the Premier will find quite as difficult to deal with as the Indian mutiny. It is easy to see that Lord John Russell is playing once more for the leadership. His taking up the question of the admission of the Jews to Parliament, when it had just fallen from the hands of Lord Palmerston, and the singular earnestness on the subject displayed by a section of the House, or rather by a body of members who have not been too remarkable for undeviating adherence to the First Minister; is very significant. It is not without significance either that the party which has actively approached Lord Palmerston on behalf of Lord John's new Jew Bill is headed by a gentleman who has only recently left the Government without giving any reasons for it publicly. Now, next to a woman scorned, a gentleman who leaves a Ministry is the most implacable, secretly or openly, as the case may be, against the colleagues and the chief he leaves behind; and he is the least pleasant person to have at the head of a movement originated by a rival statesman. It needs no ghost, however, to tell one that Lord Palmerston does not intend to let Lord John carry a Jew bill this year, or any year in which he is alive and a Prime Minister, which may account for the indifference with which Lord Derby listened, under the gallery of the Commons, to Lord John's speech, and the readiness with which he exchanged Mr. Walpole's platitudes (the voice and style of this right hon. gentleman are so much like those of the late Sir Robert Peel, most abundantly diluted) in the one House for Lord Campbell's decisive volunteer statement of the state of the law with regard to the question in the other.

On the whole, the popular branch of the Legislature has been very turbulent during the last week or so. New members begin to feel their footing, especially as election petitions are being withdrawn with a most "suspicious rapidity." Mr. Dillwyn (of whom few ever heard, except in connection with a desire to whip peccant husbands at the cart's-tail) has started up into a leader, and talks of the "gentlemen who act with me" in a far more confident style than Lord John could venture to do; while Mr. Cox, of Finsbury, lectures the House in good set terms for their unconstitutional dealings with the affairs of the country after one o'clock in the morning. "Ex pede Herculem!" Who knows but in dissolving Parliament Lord Palmerston may not have been a political Frankenstein? There is no doubt but that the monster is showing unmistakable symptoms of that unpleasant vivacity which may prove fatal to its creator.

Another high Parliamentary functionary may also be said to be in difficulties. It is to be feared that the House of Commons is not at all crushed by its Speaker. There have been too frequent occasions of late when Parliamentary managers have been heard to murmur, "Oh for an hour of Shaw Lefevre!" But it is not every man that has an unimpeachable chest, which is the grand point of departure in the government of bodies of men.

In a certain sense constitutional government has been on its trial, for the Queen of the Netherlands, the Duc d'Aumale, the Count de Paris, and other actual and ex Royalties have been assiduously looking on at that most mystical puzzle to Continental minds—our legislative assemblies. It was a goodly sight to see the bow which Lord Brougham bestowed on the Queen of the Netherlands when she took her seat on the steps of the throne of the Queen of England—the proximate business of the evening being a set speech by Lord Brougham on the African slave trade. Sir Benjamin Hall, who officially conducted her Majesty over the Palace of Westminster, was elaborate enough in his devotion; and the Marquis of Lansdowne and Lord Clarendon were of the Court courtly in their greetings; but Lord Brougham's bow was based on the Oriental model—it was not a bow—it was a "kotow." But all the Briton rekindled within him when he began his address, and he asserted his privilege of freedom of speech to its utmost limit, undeterred by the presence of Royalty, or even of womankind.

One of the features of the week is the revivification of the Peelites. Allusion has already been made to the reappearance of Mr. Gladstone; and, besides that, the Duke of Newcastle has been guilty of some long and bold speaking in the Lords, while Mr. Cardwell has been again returned to the House of Commons. A curious instance of the practical turn of the people of England has been given in the

Oxford election. They treated Mr. Thackeray, who was before them in actual life and presence, as a political myth, because he is a poet and a novelist, while they were ready enough to realise a member in a gentleman who has been President of the Board of Trade, although he was only with them in the spirit.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 99.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

ELECTION COMMITTEES.

THE SPEAKER informed the House that he had received a letter from the agents to the petitioners against the return for the county of Clare, intimating that it was not their intention to proceed with the petition. Mr. EGERTON brought up the report from the Weymouth Election Committee, finding that Colonel Freestun and Mr. Campbell, the sitting members, were duly elected; that two acts of bribery had been committed, but that they were not traced to the sitting members or their agents.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY CAPITAL BILL.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Lords to the bill introduced to meet the losses of the Great Northern Railway occasioned by the Redpath frauds.—Mr. SPOONER opposed one of the amendments introduced by the House of Lords, which compromised the rights of the preference shareholders. As the bill left the House of Commons, the preference shareholders were left to their remedy in the courts of law; but the Lords had inserted words taking away that right. It was his object to remove those words and leave all parties to their legal remedies. He considered this to be a question of commercial honour, and moved that the words be expunged.—Mr. TURNER seconded the motion.—Mr. BAILLIE, as Chairman of the Committee that sat upon this question in the Commons, defended the words, as only expressing what was the undoubted feeling of the Committee of the Commons. The clause was opposed by Mr. W. BROWN and Mr. J. C. EWART, on the same grounds with Mr. Spooner.—Mr. DENISON, as chairman of the company, defended the amendment of the Lords, and stated that if this question were not settled now it would be impossible to make a dividend at all for years to come.—Mr. LOVE gave his opinion that the House was not bound by the decision of the Committee of the Lords, or even of their own Committee, as both those Committees had in his opinion overstepped the limits of their duty in entering upon the differences between the different classes of shareholders. It was a question to be settled by the courts of law.—Mr. FITZROY, on the other hand, maintained the authority of the Committee, and insisted that, even if they had gone wrong, this was not the time to challenge their decision.—After some further discussion the House was about to divide, when Mr. DENISON intimated that he would spare the House the trouble, and the Lords' amendment was negatived without a division.

PUBLIC CHARITIES.

A bill introduced by Mr. HARDCASTLE to provide for the appointment of trustees to public charities was opposed by Sir JOHN TROLLOPE and by Mr. MURRAY on the part of the Government, and the second reading was negatived without a division.

Sir ESKINE PERRY's bill for married women was, on his own motion, referred to a Select Committee.

TENANT RIGHTS.

On the motion of Mr. MAGUIRE, Mr. Moore's Irish Tenant-right Bill was withdrawn, after several Irish members had urged upon Government the necessity of taking the question into their consideration, which Mr. HERBERT, on the part of the Government, said he would do if the matter again came before them.

BURIALS ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

The House went into Committee on this bill. A lengthened discussion took place on a clause introduced by Mr. Massey, the Under-Secretary of State, to get rid of the difficulty under which several parishes had been placed by the Bishops refusing to consecrate burial-grounds unless the ground in which dissenters were to be buried was separated from the rest of the ground by a wall or some other very marked line of demarcation. Mr. Massey proposed to remedy this by giving the parochial clergymen permission to bury, even though the Bishops should refuse to consecrate the ground.—Mr. GLADSTONE, Sir W. HEATHCOTE, and others opposed the clause on the ground that it would free the parish clergymen from their canonical obedience, and suggested that, if this clause were withdrawn, and the feeling of the House were made known to the offending Bishops, they would withdraw their opposition.—The Committee divided, when the clause was agreed to by a majority of 108 to 69.

The Irish Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill was read a third time and passed. Some other clauses were proposed, and the bill went through Committee.

The Municipal Corporations Bill and the Banking Bill, as respectively amended, were reconsidered, and the amendments agreed to.

The Caledonian and Crinan Canals Bill was read a third time, and passed.

The report on the New Zealand Loan Guarantee Bill was brought up, and after some discussion agreed to.

Some other bills were advanced a stage.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

EMIGRATION OF NEGROES.

The Marquis of BREADALBANE brought up the reply of her Majesty to their Lordships' address on the subject of the emigration of negroes, in which the Queen stated that her Majesty would take every means to discourage all schemes for the emigration of negroes from Western Africa which were calculated to promote slavery.

NATIONAL SURVEY.

The noble Marquis also brought up her Majesty's answer to their Lordships' address for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the best plan for effecting a national survey, which stated that her Majesty had directed a Royal Commission to be appointed to effect the objects to which their Lordships' address referred.

Lord BROUGHAM, pursuant to notice, called attention to the state of the bankruptcy laws, and suggested several amendments. In conclusion the noble and learned Lord said upon the table a bill on the subject, which, however, he did not intend to press forward in the present Session.—The LORD CHANCELLOR admitted that there were many points connected with the subject which were capable of great improvement, but he could not pledge himself to support the present bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The House met at twelve o'clock.

SUPERANNUATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Lord NAAS moved the second reading of this bill.

Mr. WILSON, on the part of the Government, opposed it. If it could be shown that the charge made upon the public servants was too high, and that the public made a profit from it beyond what was necessary to provide for the superannuations, he would at once say that a change was requisite, notwithstanding the engagements which had been entered into with the public by the civil servants of the Crown. If also it could be shown that there had been any breach of engagement on the part of the Crown, he would admit at once that a change should be made. Such, however, he denied to be the case. The hon. gentleman then proceeded to show that the public servants were quite aware of the nature of their engagements on entering the service, and that their salaries had largely increased since they had so entered. There was no ground for the bill of the noble Lord, which would give an indiscriminate increase to the salaries of the whole of the public servants, when many of them were already very highly paid. Although there might be instances in which some of those who paid could never receive any advantage from the fund, it should be recollected that the tax was a general one, and individual cases of small hardship should not interfere with a general benefit. An inquiry into the question was still pending, and he thought there ought to be no legislation until it was concluded. The bill would create a greater anomaly than that which it was intended to obviate. He therefore moved, as an amendment, that it should be read a second time that day three months.

Mr. CLIVE and Mr. WEGUELIN spoke in support of the bill.

Mr. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD said that although there had been no breach of contract with their servants on the part of the Government in enforcing the reductions, he contended that the contract was an unfair and unequal one, into which they ought never to have been required to enter.

Sir F. BARING opposed the bill, considering that it would only settle the question in a partial way, and would create great dissatisfaction amongst the lower grades of public servants.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS thought there ought to be an equitable adjustment of the question, but could not support a bill for an indiscriminate increase of salaries.

In the evening sitting, The LORD ADVOCATE withdrew the Edinburgh, &c., Annuity Tax Abolition Bill.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Mr. LABOUCHERE, in reply to Sir J. Pakington, said that the Government had decided upon separating the district of Moreton Bay from the colony of New South Wales, and form it into a separate colony; that it was not intended to introduce convicts there, and that the constitution of the new colony would resemble that of New South Wales.

NETLEY HOSPITAL.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Wilcox, said it was intended to proceed with the building of the new Military Hospital of Netley, as the Government believed the site to be peculiarly healthy.

THE ORDEE OF THE BATH.

Lord HOTHAM called the attention of Lord Palmerston "to the existing practice of exacting from officers appointed to be members of the military division of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath an engagement that the insignia of the Order, which they have received from the Sovereign in person, or which have been transmitted to them by her Majesty's commands, shall, after their death, be returned." The noble Lord said that the star presented by the Queen was made of such worthless materials, being all tinsel and spangles, that the officers who received them were compelled to get a similar star made by their jewellers at a cost of £14. When the Russian war terminated an interchange of orders took place amongst the allies, and the Queen sent silver stars to the French and Sardinian officers; while stars absolutely worthless as regarded their intrinsic value were given to British officers.

General CODRINGTON agreed with the noble Lord that the stars were composed of the most tawdry materials. When Lord Gough decorated the French and Sardinian officers, it was with a silver star, but the theatrical ones were reserved for the English officers, who put them out of sight as speedily as possible (Laughter).

Lord PALMERSTON did not think there was anything at all unseemly in asking to have the insignia of the Order returned. With respect to the materials of which it was composed he had no doubt but the House of Commons would grant any additional sum which might be necessary to make them better.

THE WAR WITH PERSIA.

The House having gone into a Committee of Supply.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a vote of £400,000 towards the reimbursement of the East India Company for the extraordinary expenses incurred in the war with Persia.

After some discussion, in the course of which it was stated that this sum would probably be the last voted for the same object, the vote was agreed to.

The next vote was £500,000 for the adjustment of the account with the East India Company in reference to the old China war.

Mr. WILSON explained that the delay for the settlement of this account was occasioned by disputes as to the balance that really existed between the Government and the East India Company. The vote, however, was a formal one, inasmuch as the Government had a claim against the Company for £500,000, so that the real balance to be paid them was only £30,000.

The vote was agreed to.

Several other votes were passed in the course of the night.

NEW WRIT FOR LONDON.

On the motion of Mr. HAYTER, a new writ was ordered to issue for the city of London, in the room of Baron Rothschild, who had accepted the office of Steward of the Chiltern Hundreds.

THE COURT.

The Court left the Royal pavilion at Aldershot for Osborne shortly before four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, and, travelling over the South-Western Railway from Farnborough to Gosport, crossed the Solent in the *Fairy*, Royal steam-yacht, which anchored off Mead's Hole, under Osborne, at half-past six. On the previous evening her Majesty entertained at dinner at Aldershot a very large party of the commanding officers of regiments, several of whom are under orders for India.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Consort, the elder Royal children, and the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, attended Divine service at Osborne. The Rev. J. Prothero officiated and preached the sermon.

On Monday and on Tuesday the Queen and the Prince Consort, with the younger branches of the Royal family, drove out in the vicinity of Osborne.

On Wednesday the Prince Consort left Osborne at an early hour to attend the meeting of the Royal Agricultural Association at Salisbury.

On Thursday the Queen and the Prince Consort, with several of the younger members of the Royal family, made an excursion into the interior of the island, returning to Osborne to dinner.

VISIT OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

The promised visit of the Emperor Napoleon and the Empress Eugenie to her Majesty and the Prince Consort at Osborne is now expected to take place on or about the 4th of August. It is not thought the visit will be prolonged over three days.

THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS.

This illustrious lady, who is travelling under the title of the Countess Van Buren, is now in England for the first time. Her Majesty is a Princess of the house of Wurtemberg, and married, in 1839, the present King of the Netherlands, by whom she is the mother of two children—the Prince of Orange, born in 1840, who visited this country last year, and will probably at no distant date become intimately allied to our own Royal family; and the Prince Alexander, born in 1851, who accompanies his Royal mother on her present visit to this country. Judging from the record of the Queen's daily progresses, her Majesty seems determined to make up for the want of previous experience in this country by seeing everything worthy of observation in the metropolis. The Queen was formally received by her Majesty at Buckingham Palace last week, and has since been fêted by many of the principal members of the aristocracy. Her Majesty, who is of commanding figure and considerable personal attractions, has just attained her thirty-sixth year.

HER MAJESTY'S RUMOURED VISIT TO FRANCE.—The *Globe* of Thursday says:—"We do not believe that there is any foundation for the statements made by some of the foreign journals, to the effect that her Majesty is about to visit France this autumn."

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Anna Maria Dawson and Sir George Couper, left her residence, Clarence House, St. James's, on Saturday, for Frogmore.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess d'Aumale gave a grand fête to the Queen of the Netherlands on Wednesday, at Orleans House, Twickenham.

The Duke and Duchess of Hamilton, with the youthful Marquis of Douglas, arrived in London on Tuesday night from the Continent, after a protracted absence.

The Duchess of Wellington will give a grand entertainment to the Queen of the Netherlands at Apsley House on Monday next.

The Marchioness (Anne) of Londonderry has left Holderness House for Wynyard Park, near Stockton-on-Tees.

MARRIAGES IN HIGH LIFE.—A marriage took place on Tuesday which attracted all the fashionable company at present in London to St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge. The contracting parties were the Lady Mary Yorke, second daughter of the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke, and Mr. William George Craven, 1st Life Guards, eldest son of the late Hon. George Augustus Craven, brother of the present Earl Craven, by the Duchess De la Force. The church was thronged with spectators before the bridal party arrived, and in one of the galleries was seated her Royal Highness the Princess Mary of Cambridge, attended by Lady Geraldine Somerset.—The marriage of Lieut.-Colonel Lord Burghersh, C.B., Coldstream Guards, eldest son of the Earl of Westmoreland, with the Lady Adelaide Curzon, second daughter of the Earl Howe, took place on Monday, at St. George's, Hanover-square. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge honoured the ceremony with his presence.—The marriage of the Hon. Ashley Ponsonby, second son of the late Lord De Mauley, to the Hon. Louisa Gordon, daughter of Lord and Lady Henry Gordon, and Maid of Honour to her Majesty, was celebrated on Wednesday, at All Saints' Church, Knightsbridge, in the presence of a numerous circle of friends of both families.

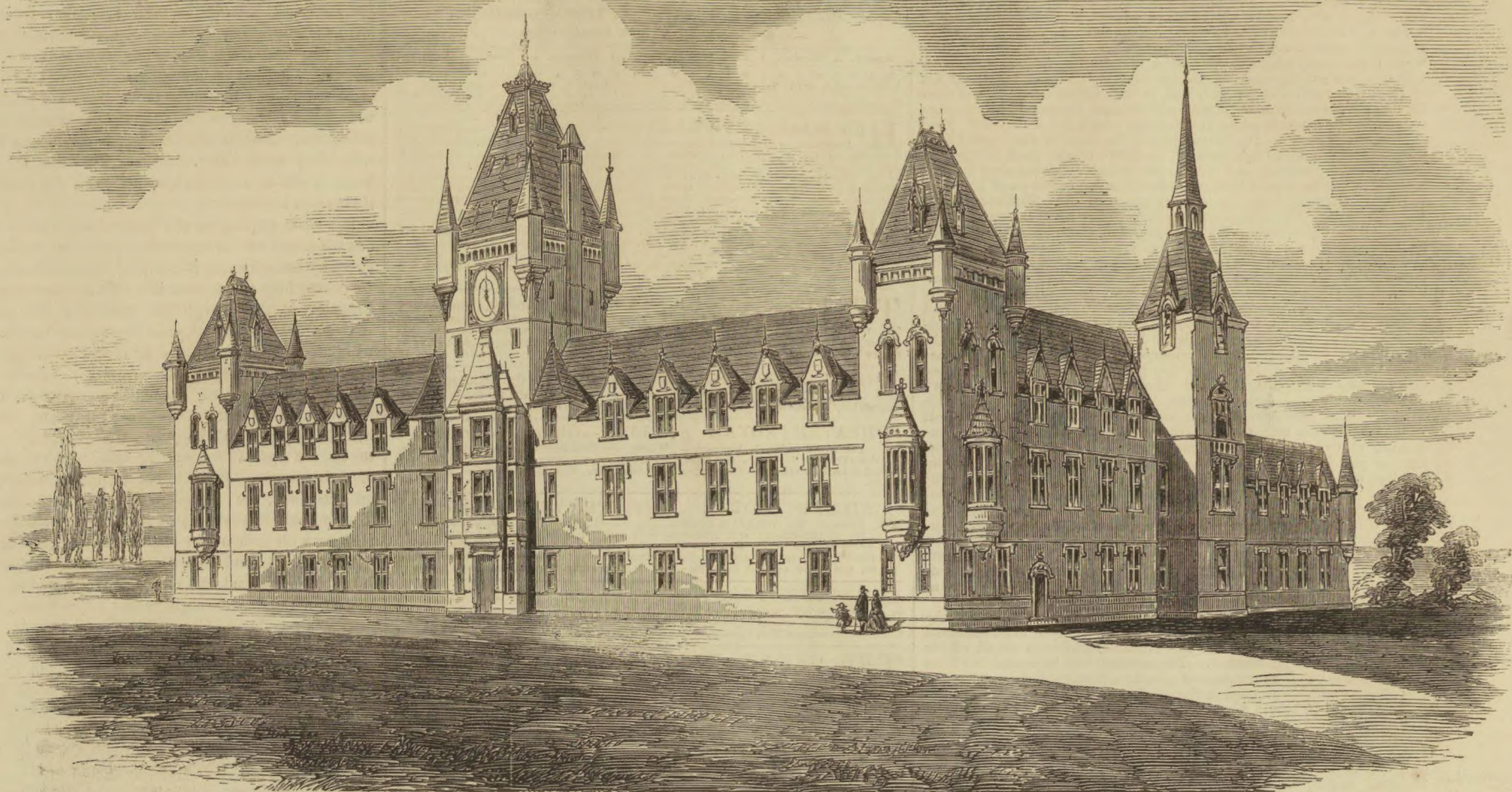
A FAMOUS OAK at Pleischnitz, near Breslaw, fell down a few days ago. It was sixty-six feet high, and its trunk was thirty-three feet in circumference. The trunk was hollow, and nine persons could easily eat themselves in it.

WEALTHY FOREIGN STREET BEGGARS.—At Malborough-street on Thursday three Neapolitans, dressed in the fantastic habiliments of their country, were brought up in the custody of Hewitt and Fryer, active officers of the Mendicity Society, charged before Mr. Bingham with being found in Jernyn-street begging of the passengers. At the station-house they were searched, when there was found upon them above £100, consisting of 107 napoleons in gold, 11 francs and a half, and 5s. in copper.

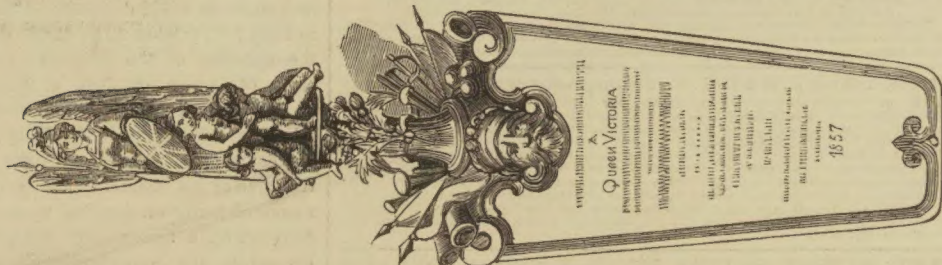
FIRST VOYAGE OF THE "SHANNON".—The *Shannon* screw-frigate, 51, Captain Peel, made her passage to the Cape in fifty-two days under sail, having experienced fine weather all the way. She ran 332 miles the last twenty-four hours, and sailed fifteen knots without pressing her with the wind abeam. Two fatal accidents occurred on board during the passage.—Mr. Coaker, master's assistant, fell from aloft, struck the fore chains, and fell dead into the water; and the other, George Brown, a boy of the first class, who fell from aloft inboard, and was killed. But for the admirable facility afforded by Clifford's plan of lowering boats, with which the frigate was fitted, the body of the unfortunate young officer could not have been recovered, nor the life of another boy who fell overboard have been saved. On both occasions the vessel was going at from eleven to twelve knots under all sail, notwithstanding which the boat was manned and lowered in little more than a minute. The boats were 30-feet cutters, the largest hung from man-of-war's davits, and carrying each from seventeen to twenty men, with a weight of from two to three tons. To the consideration of the captain for the safety of his men this life, thus happily saved, is due, he having specially applied to the Admiralty (as we stated at the time) to be supplied with this means of instantly lowering a boat to pick up a "man overboard," having lost one on a previous voyage through the want of it. May his good example find followers elsewhere.



HER MAJESTY LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE ROYAL VICTORIA PATRIOTIC ASYLUM, ON WANDSWORTH COMMON.—(SEE PAGE 98.)



THE ROYAL VICTORIA PATRIOTIC ASYLUM.—(SEE PAGE 98.)



SILVER TROWEL USED BY HER MAJESTY IN LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE ROYAL VICTORIA PATRIOTIC ASYLUM.

THE ROYAL VICTORIA PATRIOTIC ASYLUM.

We this week engrave, upon the opposite page, the very interesting ceremony of her Majesty laying the foundation-stone of the Royal Victoria Patriotic Asylum, on Saturday week, on Wandsworth-common; and we engrave, above, the façade of the building as it will appear when completed. A superb silver trowel was made for the occasion by Messrs. Garrard, goldsmiths to the Crown, Haymarket. It is of very elegant design, and bears a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation:—

On the xi day of July MDCCLVII
In the second year of Peace
Queen Victoria
Dedicated

This Asylum.
Erected from a portion of the Free Gifts
Of the United Kingdom
Of the British Colonies and the Indian Empire
And of many not subjects of the realm
To the nurture and education
Of the orphan daughters
Of those brave men
Who perished in the Russian war
And for the perpetual consolation
And encouragement
Of those who hereafter
May die for their country.

The details of the ceremony will be found in the Supplement published with the present Number.



THE LAND TRANSPORT CORPS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE LATE P. J. DE BERANGER.

IN losing Béranger France has lost not only her greatest poet but her most incorruptible patriot. As a song-writer he has never been excelled—not even by Robert Burns; and it is very doubtful whether he were equalled by that great master of the lyre. Though he had long ceased to write, his name was a power in France; and his matchless *chansons* were always on the lips of the people whenever a word was wanted in defiance of tyranny, in praise of France, or in support of



THE LATE M. BERANGER.

the right against the wrong. Notwithstanding the patrician syllable "de" which preceded his name, this simple-hearted man disclaimed any connection with the aristocracy of the ancient or of any other régime. He was born at Paris, in the year 1780, in the house of his maternal grandfather, a tailor. In his earliest years he "was steeped in poverty to the very lips." Having mastered the first rudiments of education, he accepted the employment of waiter in an *auberge*, or inn. How long he remained in this department is not known. He next worked as a journeyman printer in the town of Peronne, where he remained a considerable time. It is a mistake to suppose that early genius is unconscious of its gift. Knowing that he had genius, and feeling that he had ambition, young Béranger was induced to quit his types, and hasten to the metropolis, to embark on the dangerous sea of professional authorship. The booksellers to whom he applied told him that poetry was an idle and profitless pursuit. It was no matter—nature had made him a poet, and he was determined to cultivate his powers in spite of fortune. His slender resources, however, diminished with frightful rapidity, and he soon found himself in Paris without money and without a friend. In this emergency he copied out some songs and sent them, with a statement of his case, to such persons as fame reported to be the friends and patrons of literature. Many and grievous were his disappointments. As a last resource he packed up his manuscripts, and inclosed them to Lucien Bonaparte, the brother of the First Consul. This time fortune favoured him. Lucien sent him a very kind and encouraging letter, accompanied by a more substantial mark of his esteem. The relief thus delicately and generously administered was bestowed in time, and it effectually rescued the poet from the distress which had well-nigh overwhelmed him. But Lucien was not content with merely having given him a temporary aid; he

The question of University Reform in England has made considerable progress; but in all the discussions that have taken place on the subject the Universities had one great advantage. They were Universities, and not schools; and it never was a question of mere existence, either with Oxford or Cambridge; for their colleges are all well endowed, and many of them wealthy, and only required a reform in their management to be as effective and as useful as their best friends could desire. But the case of the Universities of Scotland, which has lately been brought prominently into public notice, stands upon a different footing. The Scottish Universities not only demand Reform, but cry out loudly for the very means of existence. They are to a great extent Universities no longer, but schools for boys—day schools, in fact;—and their teachers, instead of being professors, are for the most part dominies, or schoolmasters. They are either unendowed, or but poorly provided with means, and cease to attract the competition of the best and ablest men in Scotland to fill their chairs. The average salary of a professor in Edinburgh, Glasgow, St. Andrew's, and Montrose, does not exceed £300 per annum. There are no fellowships for deserving youth; and the professors, when incapacitated by age or infirmity for the effective performances of their duties, having no retiring pensions, hold on to the last, and, at the age of seventy or eighty, pay one-half or a third of their salaries to younger substitutes to perform their work. All this is matter of notoriety and regret in Scotland, not only in the immediate circles of University life, but in the wider circle of society, which desires that these ancient seminaries of learning should continue to be worthy of their past renown, and of the high and honourable place held by Scotland in the annals of the world. But how is the necessary reform to be wrought? And, above all, how is the money to be procured? Were the money forthcoming, either by the benefactions of living Scotsmen, or by the act of the Legislature, the work of reformation as regards discipline and efficiency would not be difficult. The question is in reality like a war question—one of money; and the deputation of Scottish members and of gentlemen connected with the Scottish Literary Institute which last week waited upon the Lord Advocate urged this point upon his Lordship with particular force. The

four points brought prominently under notice were:—1. The adequate endowment of existing chairs; 2. The establishment of fellowships in the Faculty of Arts; 3. Retiring allowances to aged or infirm professors; and 4. The means of establishing new professorships suitable to the progress of learning and the spirit of the times. But to accomplish these objects, to say nothing of the fifth object to be provided for in the next political Reform Bill, the granting of the Parliamentary franchise to the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, the sum of £20,000 per annum is needed. Some of the Scottish delegates thought £10,000 would be sufficient; but in either case it will, we think, be difficult to procure the money, with the Persian war unpaid for, and Chinese and Indian wars looming portentously large upon the horizon. Yet as the Crown lands of Scotland yield to the national Exchequer about £24,000 per annum, and as Scotland, though a large contributor to the national revenues, is a recipient but of an infinitesimally small amount of the national expenditure, it does not seem a very rash or unreasonable demand on the part of Scotland to ask that a part, if not the whole, of this £24,000 should be devoted to the maintenance of those seats of learning, once so celebrated, and now going to decay. Will the Scottish members deign to imitate the example of Irish members? Will they learn to combine for a national object? If they will do so—and they number fifty-seven votes—neither Lord Palmerston, nor any other Minister who might chance to be more powerful than his Lordship, will dare to treat so reasonable a demand with contempt or indifference. Even thirty Scottish members resolving to go into the same lobby against the Minister on all occasions unless he acceded to place the Universities of Scotland on a proper footing would speedily gain the victory. But, until the Scottish members confess the value of organisation, and resolve to act upon it, we fear that the Minister will always have the ready answer that he has no money. In the meantime Scotland is in the position of the Jews. It is too simple-minded and too peaceable to be feared in Parliament.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS have given notice that, on and after the 31st instant, the New-road and separate names of places thereon will be entirely changed; and that from that date the road between the Angel at Islington and King's-cross will be called the Pentonville-road; from King's-cross to Osnaburgh-street, Easton-road; and from Osnaburgh-street to Edgware-road, the Marylebone-road; and the inhabitants are forthwith required to paint such numbers and names on their houses as the board shall direct.

On Saturday last, at the Marylebone Vestry, the report of the committee of vestry and directors and guardians appointed to select a site for the schools, &c., for the children now in Marylebone Workhouse, selecting the plot of land at Southall as the site for such schools, was affirmed by a large majority.

THE DWELLINGS OF THE LABOURING CLASSES.—On Tuesday evening an influential meeting of the inhabitants of Kensington was held at the new Vestry Hall, for the purpose of making more extensively known the objects of the Kensington Association for Providing Improved Dwellings for the Labouring Classes. His Grace the Duke of Argyll presided, and was supported by the Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair and Dr. Waddilove. Resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting were unanimously carried. This association has been lately formed in Kensington, with limited liability, under the Joint-stock Companies Act of 1856. The amount of its capital is limited to £10,000, and the sum already subscribed is £2580. The association require about £5000 to make a good beginning.

BRITISH ORPHAN ASYLUM, CLAPHAM-RISE.—On Monday the half-yearly meeting of the subscribers to this charity was held at the London Tavern (the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor presiding), when six children were elected from a list of twenty-four candidates, and subsequently rewards were presented to several educated in the institution, who attended with satisfactory testimonials from their employers.

BREWERS-COURT RAGGED SCHOOLS.—The ninth annual meeting of the friends and supporters of these schools, which are situated in that densely-crowded locality, Wild-street, Drury-lane, was held on Wednesday evening in Freemasons' Hall. Lord Alfred Paget presided, and in opening the business expressed the pleasure he felt at being present, and in any way assisting to promote education among the poor; he was glad to learn that so much success had already attended this institution, and hoped for its continued favourable progression. The secretary read the report of the year, which was of a most gratifying character, both as to the highly useful nature of the institution and as to the cordial support it had met with. Among instances illustrative of the latter it was mentioned that with regard to a contemplated new building "the builder had tendered for a sum which left him no profit; the architect gave his plan as a labour of love; and the solicitor executed the necessary deeds simply at the cost of the stamp."

ROYAL NAVAL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—On Monday morning the quarterly meeting of the friends of this society was held at the Thatched House Tavern. St. James's-street—Admiral Sir Watkin Owen Pell in the chair. The report showed that the receipts for the past quarter had been (with a previous balance of £984 9s. 7d.) £1161 9s. 7d.; the expenditure had been £506 19s. 6d.; and there was a balance now remaining of £654 10s. 1d. Lord Colchester was then elected as president of the society, in the room of the late Rear-Admiral Lord Radstock. The members of the committee were then elected, after which the meeting proceeded to consider memorials from the widows and orphans of naval officers for relief; and, the same having been taken seriatim, each case was relieved, the total amount voted being £430.

INAUGURATION OF THE NEW NAVIGATION SCHOOLS.—On Tuesday afternoon the interesting ceremony of inaugurating the new Navigation Schools, under the auspices of the Government, took place at the Sailors' Institute (where the schools are situated), Mercer-street, Shadwell, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord Stanley of Alderley, the President of the Board of Trade, in the presence of a numerous and fashionable assemblage. The company assembled soon after twelve o'clock, and, having gone over the building, met in the large hall of the institute. Lord Stanley of Alderley having taken the chair, Mr. Fieldwick read a lengthened report, which stated, among other details, that the institute had been opened twelve months for the seafaring men, in whose interest the British and Foreign Sailors' Society had exerted themselves with a view to remove them from the dens of vice and drunkenness that infest the neighbourhood; and to this end the committee had endeavoured to make the institute as attractive and instructive as possible.

LICENSED VICTUALLERS' SCHOOL.—The fifty-first anniversary festival of this excellent institution was held on Wednesday at Highbury Tavern. Upwards of 1500 persons were present on the occasion, including the wives and daughters of the members of the society. Mr. Hedworth D. Barclay presided. Since the establishment of the institution in 1803, which was incorporated by Royal charter in 1836, 1391 boys and girls have been admitted; the number now participating in its benefits being 134. In the course of the evening the children were introduced, and presented a most pleasing sight. They all bore evidence of their health being specially cared for; and their very neat attire, which was devoid of any badge that could in any way distinguish them from what they in reality were—the sons and daughters of respectable but decayed members of the trade—was much admired.

CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL, WEST STRAND.—The annual general meeting of the governors of this useful institution was held on Tuesday—Capt. D. O'Brien in the chair. The following statement of the operations of the hospital for the past year was made. Patients admitted for relief (of whom 2604 were cases of accidents, and 117 had died), 55,667; making, with the cases admitted in former years, and relieved since the foundation of the hospital, a total of 284,973. The losses by death of many of the earliest and kindest friends of the charity were recorded, and the earnest hope was expressed that new benefactors would arise in support of an institution of such great public benefit, and which had accomplished, and was steadily accomplishing, so much good among the sick and disabled poor.

SUICIDE BY A STOCKBROKER.—On Monday evening Mr. Carttar, the Coroner for East Surrey, concluded an inquest, which had been adjourned, on the body of Mr. James Sebastian Yeates, of Camberwell, a stockbroker, who was found dead in bed on the previous Thursday morning. A small bottle which had contained prussic acid was found on a dressing-table near the bed. It was stated by the son of the deceased that his father had died in embarrassed circumstances, and that he had latterly been in low spirits. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased destroyed himself whilst in a state of temporary insanity.

THE PARLIAMENTARY OATHS BILL.

DEPUTATION TO LORD PALMERSTON.

On Tuesday morning a numerous deputation from the members of the House of Commons favourable to the principle of the Parliamentary Oaths Bill waited upon Lord Palmerston, at his private residence, for the purpose of ascertaining what were the views entertained by her Majesty's Government in respect to the legislative course proposed to be taken by the friends of civil and religious liberty in consequence of the rejection of the Jewish Disabilities Bill by the House of Lords. Between 30 and 40 of the chief members at the meeting of the preceding Thursday were present—many members being prevented from accompanying the deputation in consequence of an early sitting of the House of Commons.

Mr. Horsman acted as speaker to the deputation. At the conclusion of his remarks Mr. Horsman read to his Lordship a copy of the resolutions which had been passed at the meeting on the previous Thursday.

Lord Palmerston said there could be no doubt as to the importance of the question at issue; and that the Government was as desirous of the settlement of it as any gentlemen present. That, as to Lord J. Russell's notice, it was impossible for a Government to promise support to a bill which it had not seen, and of the provisions of which it was ignorant; but it would give all its support to Lord John in the introduction of his bill. As to the future stages of the bill, he must remind the meeting that they were now in the middle of July, and that Parliament was expected to rise in the middle of August. In reference to seating Baron Rothschild by resolution, his Lordship said he could hold out no hope of acquiescence on the part of Government in any such attempt, as it would be in opposition to a judgment of a court of law.

THE ADJOURNED MEETING IN PALACE-YARD.

In the afternoon an adjourned meeting was held at the King's Arms Hotel, Palace-yard, to consider the reply of Lord Palmerston to the deputation, and to deliberate upon the course to be adopted. Mr. Horsman was called to the chair. Several gentlemen having expressed their opinions, it was ultimately proposed—That Lord Palmerston having announced the intention of the Government to support Lord J. Russell's bill, it is inexpedient to consider our future course until the meeting has had an opportunity of knowing the contents of the bill and the probability of its being allowed to pass this Session. The resolution was unanimously adopted, and the meeting was then adjourned *sine die*.

RESIGNATION OF BARON ROTHSCHILD.—Baron Rothschild, in accordance with his promise, upon the result of the Oaths Bill, resigned the representation for the city of London—to be returned, it is expected, without opposition. At the meeting in the City, on Thursday, at which the Baron announced his resignation it was resolved:—That this meeting, having heard from Baron Lionel de Rothschild his determination to resign his seat, pledges itself to use its most earnest endeavours to secure his return, as a proof of the unalterable attachment of the electors of London to the cause which first recommended him to their suffrages.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—On Tuesday the members of this society and their friends paid a visit to the Tower of London, and the attraction of a complete inspection of this celebrated palace-fortress produced an assemblage of between 400 and 500 persons, of whom a large portion were ladies. The society were received with great courtesy by Lord De Ros, Colonel Wympere, and the higher military authorities, at twelve o'clock, on the Tower-green, and the business commenced on the spot with an address from Lord De Ros, in which he briefly alluded to the changes in the aspect of the Tower since the fire, about fifteen years ago. A short paper was then read by the Rev. Thomas Hugo, as preliminary to inspecting the various buildings, after which, attended by the council and the Tower warders, the whole fortress was inspected by them by four o'clock. As the council of the society were located in the various parts to describe them to parties of the society in succession during the day, perhaps they never were more perfectly described.

CONSECRATION OF OLD FORD CHURCH, BOW.—On Wednesday morning the new church recently erected at Old Ford, Bow, near the railway station, was consecrated by the Bishop of London. His Lordship on arriving at the church was met by the Rev. G. T. Driffield, M.A., Rector of Bow; the Rev. W. W. Champneys, M.A., Rector of Whitechapel; the Rev. Richard Parnell, B.A., the Incumbent of the new church; Sir Edward North Buxton, Bart., M.P., Mr. Hanbury, M.P., and a large number of others of the clergy and laity. The church is of the Late Decorated or Early Perpendicular period of Gothic architecture, and built of brick, with stone dressings, upon a site given by Sir Charles Morgan, Bart., on the Tredegar-road. There are 1500 sittings; nearly one-third of this number are free, and are situated in different parts of the area and galleries, in no respect unlike the allotted seats, except in not having pew doors. The architect is Mr. John Nicholls. The cost of the erection has been nearly £6000, the greater part of which has been advanced by friends to the work. The consecration sermon in the morning was preached by the Bishop of London, and the evening sermon by the Rev. J. B. Owen, M.A., Minister of St. John's Church, Bedford-row. Liberal collections were made on behalf of the building fund.

HOSPITAL FOR DISABLED SEAMEN.—At a meeting of influential persons recently held in the City it was resolved "That a building be raised on the banks of the Thames, within the port of London, to be called (with her Majesty's permission) 'The Royal Hospital for Worn-out and Disabled Merchant Seamen.' That the said building be prepared for the reception of 500 persons selected from the different grades of the mercantile marine, and that it be commenced as soon as there is a fair prospect of £50,000 being subscribed, and that a plan of out-pensions be grafted on the institution." A donation of £5000 has been given by the corporation of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, in aid of the movement.

CANCER HOSPITAL.—The fifth annual meeting of the friends and supporters of this excellent charity was held on Wednesday, at the offices of the charity, Piccadilly—Mr. Oliver Farrer in the chair. The report of the committee congratulated the friends of the institution upon its increased usefulness, and stated that the secretary daily received letters of thanks from the patients who had been treated in the hospital. The several reports having been adopted, the chairman, Dr. Marsden, Mr. Nelson, and other gentlemen, strongly advocated the charity; after which a building fund was opened, and largely subscribed to in the room, towards the erection of a new hospital.

NORTH LONDON COLLEGIATE SCHOOL.—On Monday the eighth annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the above school took place in the Vestry-hall, King's-road, Camden-town. The Bishop of London presided, and was supported by a large body of the clergy and laity of the district.

NORTH LONDON COLLEGIATE SCHOOL FOR LADIES.—On Tuesday the eleventh annual distribution of prizes to the lady pupils of this establishment took place at the School-house, Camden-street, Camden-town. The Rev. Canon Dale, the Vicar of the parish, presided; and was supported by the Rev. Messrs. Redfern, Laing, Lawford Dale, Pelham Dale, Clemenger, Spooner, Galloway, Harrison, Hart, and Buss, Joseph Payne, Esq., and a numerous company of ladies.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF TWO PERSONS.—At Guildhall, on Tuesday, George Cox, a man about forty-five years of age, described as a commission agent, of 1, Harvey-street, Hoxton, was placed at the bar, before Alderman Carter, charged with attempting to murder Caroline Cox, his wife, and a man named Edmund Forte, by stabbing them with a dagger in a fit of jealousy. Mr. Evans stated that as he was driving in St. Martin's-le-Grand in the afternoon of the previous day he heard a cry of "Murder!" and two men ran across the middle of the road to his horse's head and tumbled down, when the prisoner, who was one of them, stabbed the other on the shoulder with a knife. The prisoner then ran after a woman, and knocked her down by running against her with great violence; and as she lay on the ground he stabbed her with the same weapon. Corroborative evidence was given by other witnesses. As the injured persons were then too ill to be moved, and would not probably be in a condition to attend at the court for some days, the prisoner (who appeared to be suffering severely) was remanded until Saturday (to-day).

CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.—William Collings, who has been in custody for the last fortnight on a charge of manslaughter, and against whom a coroner's warrant on that charge has been lodged, was finally examined at the Lambeth Police Court on Tuesday. The particulars of the case are simply these:—On the night of Saturday, the 11th inst., the deceased, William Meacham, had some words with the prisoner in front of the Globe Tavern, near the Surrey Canal, when the latter gave him a violent blow under the ear, which caused him to fall heavily on the back of his head. He was picked up in a state of insensibility, and on the following morning was taken to Guy's Hospital, where after about two hours he breathed his last. The injuries on his head were sworn to be the real cause of the death of the deceased; and the prisoner was fully committed to take his trial at the next session of the Central Criminal Court on a charge of manslaughter.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN THE METROPOLIS.—Last week the births of 860 boys and 826 girls, in all 1686 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847—1856 the average number was 1379. The deaths registered in London in the week that ended on Saturday last exhibit an increase on those of nine previous weeks. The number is 1061, of which 550 are deaths of males, and 511 those of females. In the ten years 1847—1856 the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1028. But as the deaths of last week occurred in an increased population, the average, to admit of comparison, must be raised proportionally to the increase, in which case it will become 1120. From these statements it may be inferred that the present condition of the public health is at least as good as is usual at this period of the year. The deaths from diarrhoea, which in the three previous weeks were 33, 65, and 132, rose last week to 150.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c

Mr. THACKERAY has lost Oxford, and Oxford has lost Mr. Thackeray. To our thinking Oxford has lost more than Mr. Thackeray has lost. It is true that the return of Mr. Cardwell to the House is a public benefit, and Oxford has, perhaps, done well in re-electing him. For our own parts, however, we should have liked to have seen Mr. Thackeray in the House, and for the city of Oxford. Literature is not represented in the House. What has Mr. Disraeli done for literature since he quitted chambers in Duke-street, St. James', and took to Parliamentary life? Has his voice ever been heard on any one subject connected with the calling by which his father's name is known, and he himself will be best remembered? Has he ever said one word touching that miserable pittance of twelve hundred pounds a year which the affluence of Parliament thinks more than ample for the sustenance of literature, art, science, and a long &c. which would have puzzled Cowley to put into either prose or verse? Then there is Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton: what has he done for literature in the House since his Baronetcy? Then there is Mr. Samuel Warren: has he ever said a word in behalf of authorship? Not that we wish for a single moment that Mr. Thackeray should appear in Parliament as a *bores* about authors: it is just possible that when once in the House he might have forgotten the craft which made him, and by which he will continue to be remembered with Smollett and with Fielding.

We were in Westminster Abbey the other day, and, standing before Chaucer's tomb, we noted how Dan Chaucer stands in need of a second Nicholas Brigham. We asked, of whom we know not, what has become of William Richard Drake, Esq.? Rich we know he is; deservedly liked by all is W. R. D.; he is, we know, building, draining—and all to see his friends; but, dear W. R. D., what about the restoration of Chaucer's tomb? We do not want (mind this, Mr. Sub-Dean Thynne and Mr. Scott—Gothic and yet un-Gothic) a new tomb; but let something be done, and at once, to make Chaucer's tomb in Poets' Corner look a little better than it looked on Thursday last.

Mr. Murray announces a little book by Dr. Waagen on the Manchester Art-Treasures Exhibition. From the same locality we are to have a permanent book about the Exhibition, published at the request, and under the superintendence, of the Executive Committee of the Exhibition.

Westminster Abbey, having become as crowded with monuments as to look like a marble-cutter's yard, and the vast spaces of St. Paul's looking vacant and bare, we think that our authorities have acted properly in having the sepulture and monument of the hero in the national Cathedral. The open competition for the design has called forth a display of much good and bad taste, which forms an interesting exhibition in Westminster Hall; for even the preceding defects of our artists are usefully shown by the juxtaposition of so many projects in plaster. We will mention in detail those which are admired. With reference to a majority of the works we must say that we think the great fault is attempting far too much. The eye is distracted with the competing lines of architrave and subdivisions of space, the multiplied angels and allegorical figures of Peace, War, Death, Victory, History, and Fame, and the bas-reliefs and inscriptions in all directions. Two and two do not make four in the arithmetic of ornament; and many more excellent designs would have been produced if the friends of artists had whispered in their ear a recommendation to halve the appendages and simplify the lines. One entitled the "Wellington Star Monument" is simple enough; the star is not on high, but below; and at the top of a most slender column the Duke is balanced in the style of a French acrobat surmounting *la perche*. A hero as Hercules is vulgar; but as an acrobat perched on high we have the most incontestable originality. We shall have more to say of the exhibition next week.

At Schomberg House, in Pall-mall, Gainsborough had his fashionable sitters by the score. A tradition long existed that there were frescoes of Gainsborough in the establishment, and Government having renewed the lease of the ground to other parties on condition that this historic, but now rather rickety, mansion should be pulled down, these so-called frescoes, completely begrimed with gas fuligen, have been removed from the plaster, and, being lined with canvas, prove to be capital oil-paintings, representing pleasing landscapes by this great master, when in all the ease and potency of his brush. They were originally four in number; but, a change having been made in the internal construction at the time of the imposition of the window-tax, one has been destroyed. Three remain, and two of them, being not only lined but cleaned, under the auspices of Mr. Hogarth, of the Haymarket, are pleasing, as unexpected reminiscences of the master. No evidence exists as to the subjects—we presume them to be "composita." Both represent mountainous landscapes, with water in the foreground. One of them, with a waterfall, is distinguished by a most masterly breadth of touch and knowledge of effect; the other is of a more quiet, confined, and pastoral character, with a fine golden tone, balanced by sky slightly diapered with that substance which has received the name of *arbor Grecum*. They are not cabinet pictures, but architectural decorations to be looked at from the distance of eight or ten feet, and were probably thrown off with ease and rapidity. Still the harmony of tone and the handling of the brush show all the spirit of a true master. They are on view at Mr. Hogarth's, in the Haymarket.

THE ARCHITECTURAL MUSEUM, SOUTH KENSINGTON.—On Saturday last the members held their annual conversazione, the visitors being more numerous than on any previous occasion. The Chairman—Earl De Grey, President of the Society—congratulated the members on their change of premises; and contrasted their confined and dirty rooms in Cannon-row with the gallery in which their collections are now deposited. The report, which was of a satisfactory nature, was adopted, and thanks were passed to the various officers of the society. During the last week the visitors were as follows:—On the three free days, 4315; one free evening, 4686. On the three students' days (admission to the public sixpence), 813; one students' evening, 309. Total, 10,123.

THE PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.—On Tuesday morning was issued an account of the gross public income and expenditure of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in the year ended the 30th day of June, 1857. The income from the different items makes a grand total of £72,067,821 19s. 6d. The total of the expenditure was £71,756,710 12s. 10d. The excess of income over expenditure in the year was therefore £311,111 6s. 7d.

We are requested to state that Master Nelson Lee (son of Mr. Nelson Lee, lessee of the City Theatre), who is a pupil at the City of London School, belonging to the Latin class, has this term obtained the second French prize, and also a prize in the second division of drawing. They were presented to him by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor.

WILLS.—The will of the Hon. Philip James Cocks, of Shipple Hall, Salop, was proved in London under £5000 personality. Sir James Eyre, M.D., £1000 personality. The Rev. G. C. Gorham, B.D., Vicar of Bramford Speke, Devon, £20,000. William Emerson, Esq., £70,000. Richard Oglander, Esq., of the Isle of Wight, £35,000; leaving many specific bequests of rings, &c., presented to him by Royalty. Miss Georgiana Ann Vyse, of Stoke Poges, Bucks, £40,000. Thomas Jackson, Esq., Portsea, £30,000. Mrs. Johanna Fearon, of Fognall Hampstead, £100,000. Mrs. Anna Gurney, of Cromer, Norfolk, £40,000. Mr. Robert Sherren, of St. Michael, Dorset, £6000; and has bequeathed to the British and Foreign Bible Society, £200; Church Missionary, £200; Religious Tract Society and Dorset County Hospital, £100 each.

S K E T C H E S I N C H I N A .

W^e this week engrave four of our Special Artist and Correspondent's Sketches which reached us with his letter inserted in our Journal of last week. Before describing the characteristic groups, we give a few of our Correspondent's incidental notes:—

"I have found the Celestials very intelligent, wonderfully ingenious, and altogether different from what I had been told. I get on well with them. The small boys have the brightest look you can conceive, and, so far from being ugly, they are most pleasant-looking little fellows. Their dress is a long way in advance of the dress of our juveniles: it is a white silk or other stuff blouse; no shirt in summer, and the neck bare; loose trousers tied round the knee with a satin band, and covering a stocking that descends into the most sensible of all shoes. The stocking prevents any insects getting up the legs; the shoe can hurt no corns, and, not being of leather, is not too hot; the loose trousers are delightfully cool; the clean-shaven head is decidedly neat, and the neatly-plaited pigtail is quite natty. Everybody here acknowledges the superiority of this dress. The coolies are much more loosely dressed, and merely wear the shirt and trousers.

"There is one thing I must not leave untold—that is the capturing of junks and delivering them to the Mandarins. A great many of the rebels have been forced to take to the sea, and have rigged out large flotillas. It is a known fact that the Imperialists have no regular fleet, but these rebels must exist, and, for that reason, they levy a black mail on all ships, and, that being paid, they are escorted to any place they wish, and protected from pirates; many seacoast villages, not having any means of defending themselves or their coast from the attacks of pirates, pay so much to one of these flotillas, and thus are enabled to dwell in safety, and even get the pirates attacked for them. These boats, which are all fitted out at Hong-Kong and Macao, we attack, destroy, and burn, and deliver up to the Mandarins, without inquiry, without trial, the unfortunate rebels. The other day one was captured: the captain had long hair, and wore the red turban and sash of the rebels."

I send you a Sketch of a group of CHINESE GIRLS.

The one sitting down is in full walking dress of light-blue silk, very thick, and in folds something like that stiff brocade we see in ancient pictures; black trousers, one pair over the other; silk handkerchief on the head, not tied, but put on the way you see; it is generally blue or pink plaid pattern; very thick-soled shoes; and, when out, an English umbrella completes the walking dress. In doors they take off the exterior silk tunic, and wear one like the girl behind, either white or blue, or even black—but white looks best; always earrings, one blue stone and the other gold; bracelets of blue stones.

BARBERS AL FRESCO.

A coolie on his way to his diurnal duties sits down at a roadside barber's to have his head shaved; at his feet is his bamboo hat—a

most glorious hat it is too, being an umbrella as well as a parasol; some have bits of string inside, to which are slung pipes, and on it, too, as you see, they dry fish whilst they are walking. Sometimes you see a hat covered with fish drying in the sun. A bamboo for carrying weight is near his hat. A coolie is never without his bam-

ber from stumbling, and partly to help her along the road. Most of them were dressed gaily in silks, satins, and crapes of various colours, but blue seemed the favourite and predominating one. As I walked onward, and passed group after group on the way, the ladies, as etiquette required, looked demure and shy, as if they could neither speak nor smile. Sometimes one past the middle age would condescend to answer me good-

boo; he is sitting on the never-fail g chest of drawers, containing razors, soap, &c.; the vessel contains water; the stick is surmounted by the usual joss lion. The first thing that strikes one here are these barbers. Another customer is having his pigtail combed, previous to plaiting it—a coolie with bamboo looking on; he has the genuine coolie expression, mouth open, showing teeth. The tree is a banyan, small leaves and thick.

We append to our Correspondent's notes a very interesting picture of Chinese life from Mr. Fortune's recently-published "Residence among the Chinese." It describes a busy scene upon one of the canals, and a sort of religious pilgrimage:—

Every boat seemed crowded with pilgrims, the greater part by far consisting of well-dressed females, all in their holiday attire. As daylight dawned the view became more distinct. Each boat was now brought close to the banks of the canal, in order that the passengers might be able to get on shore. I pitied the ladies, poor things! with their small cramped feet, for it was with great difficulty they could walk along the narrow plank which connected the boat with the bank of the canal. But the boatmen and other attendants were most gallant in rendering all the assistance in their power, and the fair sex were for the most part successful in reaching terra firma without any accident worth relating. Numerous chair bearers and chairs lined the banks of the canal, all anxious for hire; and, if the more wealthy-looking did not get conveyances of this kind, it certainly was not the fault of the owners of these vehicles, for they were most importunate in their offers. Indeed, so much was this the case, that in many instances under my observation the wavering pilgrim was almost lifted into the chair before he was aware of it. These chairs are extremely light and simple in their construction. They are formed of two long bamboo poles, with a small piece of wood slung between them, on which the traveller sits, and another smaller piece slung lower and more forward, on which he rests his feet. Some times, when ladies and children were to be carried, and the weight consequently light, I observed two or three of these seats slung between the poles, and this number of persons carried by two stout coolies with the greatest ease.

After taking my morning cup of tea within sight of numerous plantations of the "herb" itself, which are dotted on the sides of the hills here, I joined the motley crowd, and proceeded with them to Ayuka's temple. When I got outside of the little village at the end of the canal, and on a little eminence beyond it, I obtained a long view of the mountain road which leads to the temple. And a curious and strange view this was. Whether I looked before or behind me, I beheld crowds of people of both sexes, and of all ages, wending their way to worship at the altars of the "unknown God." They were generally divided into small groups—little families or parties—as they had left their native villages; and most of these parties had a servant or two walking behind them, and carrying some food to refresh them by the way, and a bundle of umbrellas to protect them from the rain. Each of the ladies—young and old—who were not in chairs, walked with a long stick, which was used partly to prevent



CHINESE GIRLS.—SKETCHED AT HONG-KONG.



29TH REGIMENT MADRAS NATIVE INFANTRY.—SKETCHED AT HONG-KONG.

S K E T C H E S I N C H I N A .

humouredly; but this was even rare. The men, on the contrary, were chatty enough, and so were the ladies too as soon as I had passed them and joined other groups farther ahead. Oftentimes I heard a clear ringing laugh, after I had passed, from the lips of some fair one who but a minute before had looked as if she had never given way to such frivolity in her life.

But, while I am still on a little eminence from which I have been viewing man, let me turn to the other and not less beautiful works of nature. Behind me lay a large and fertile valley, the same through which I had passed during the night, intersected in all directions with navigable canals, and teeming with an industrious and happy people. As it was now "the bonnie month of May," the rice crops had been some time in the ground, and the valley was consequently covered with dense masses of the loveliest green. Water-wheels were observed in all directions, some worked by men, and other and larger ones by bullocks, and all pouring streams of water upon the rice crops from the various canals which intersect the valley. At the foot of the hills near where I stood were numerous small tea-farms, formed on the slopes, while groups of junipers and other sombre-looking pines marked the last resting-places of the wealthy. The ancient tombs of the Ming dynasty are also common here, but they are generally in a ruinous condition; and, had it not been for the huge blocks of granite cut into the forms of men and other animals, of which they are composed, there would have been long ago no marks to point out the last resting-places of these ancient rulers of China. So much for human greatness! Higher up on the hillsides the ground was cultivated and ready to receive the summer crops of sweet potatoes and Indian corn. Beyond that again were barren mountains covered with long grass and brushwood, which the industry of the Chinese is never likely to bring under cultivation. Both below and above, on the roadsides, in the hedges, and on every spot not under cultivation, wild flowers were blooming in the greatest profusion. In the hedges the last fading blossoms of the beautiful spring-flowering *Rosythia viridissima* were still hanging on the bushes, while several species of wild roses, *Spiraea Reevesiana*, clematises, and *Glycine sinensis*, were just coming into bloom. But look a little higher up to that gorgeously painted hill side, and see those masses of yellow and white flowers—what are they? The yellow is the lovely *Azalea sinensis*, with its colours far more brilliant, and its trusses of flowers much larger, than they are ever seen in any of our exhibitions in Europe. The white is the little-known *Amelanchier racemosa*. Amongst these, and scattered over the hillsides, are other azaleas, having flowers of many different hues, and all very beautiful. It is still early morning; the sun is just appearing on the tops of the eastern mountains; the globules of heavy dew sparkle on the grass and flowers; the lark and other sweet songsters of the feathered race are pouring out of their little mouths sweet and melodious songs. I looked with delight on the beautiful scene spread out before me, and thought within myself—If Nature is so beautiful now, what must it have been before the Fall, when man was holy!

In a subsequent page Mr. Fortune gives this curious scene of a Chinese picnic:—

As the day was warm, I sought shelter from the scorching rays of the sun in a little wood of bamboos and pines which was close at hand. Here I mixed with groups of worshippers, who were now picnicking under the shade which the trees afforded. Each little group had brought its own provisions, which appeared to be relished with great zest. In many instances I was asked to join with them and partake of their homely fare, an invitation which I declined, I trust, in as polite a manner as that in which it was given. Many of them seemed weary and footsore with their long journey, but all were apparently happy and contented, and during the day I did not observe a single instance of drunkenness or any disturbance whatsoever. The Chinese as a nation are a quiet and sober race; their disturbances, when they have them, are unusually noisy, but they rarely come to blows; and drunkenness is almost unknown in the country

districts, and rare even in densely-populated cities. In these respects the lower orders in China contrast favourably with the same classes in Europe, or even in India.

When the sun had got a little to the westward, and his rays less powerful, I left the temple and took my way to the hills. In a few minutes that busy scene of idol-worship which I have endeavoured to describe was completely shut out from my view. As I went along I came sometimes unexpectedly on a quiet and lonely valley where the industrious labourers were busily at work in the fields, or on a hillside where the natives were gathering their first crop of tea. Here is no apparent want, and certainly no oppression; the labourer is strong, healthy, and willing to work, but independent, and feels that he is "worthy of

his hire." None of that idleness and cringing is here which one sees amongst the natives of India, for example, and other Eastern nations.

These remarks, it will be observed, are in accordance with our Artist's impression of the Chinese people.

SEPOYS COOKING.

In this rude cooking-shop a mat partition divides the Hindoos from the Mussulmen, as these gentlemen would not eat together. The jolly Chinamen have no such absurd notion.

SEPOYS, 59TH REGIMENT, MADRAS.

I send you a group of the 59th, sketched under Colonel Graham's superintendence, so you may be sure they are correct. It shows a most sensible way of dressing soldiers, this being the only place where the soldiers are allowed to wear pith hats; and very few in other places wear white. Colonel Graham's ideas of dress are an example to all commanders: he is for making the soldiers as comfortable as possible in their clothing.

HONG-KONG.

The *Times* correspondent, as our Artist stated in his letter of last week, has reached Hong-Kong. Here are his first impressions:—

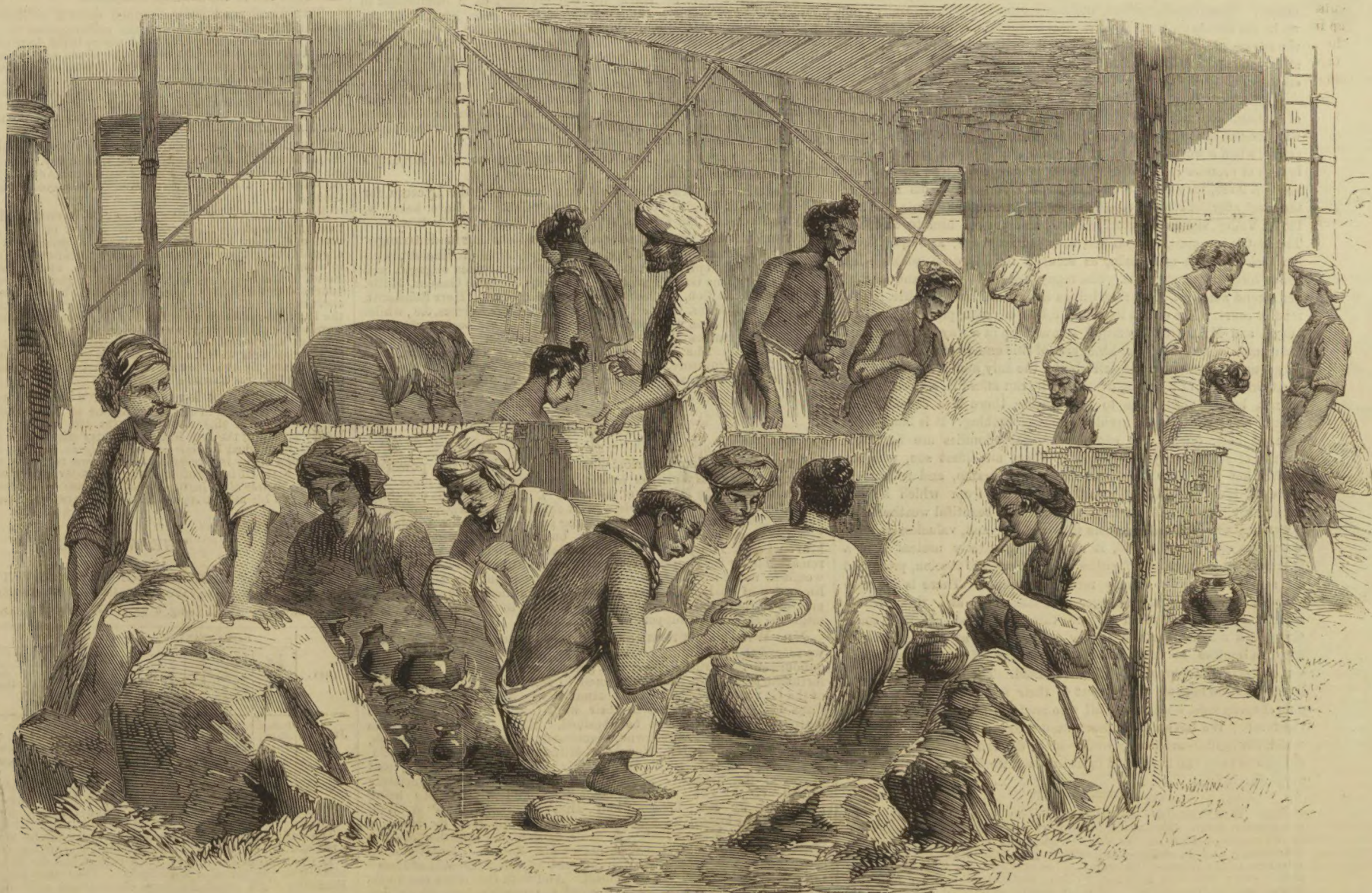
It appears to us a low, irregular line of broken, barren highlands, almost mixed up with the higher mountains of the mainland, which have clouds skimming under their summits, and a large pale sun setting behind them. A thin mist hangs around. An enthusiastic Scotchman says it is something like the Western Islands, but not so fertile as the mainland. Every one else, as the short twilight was vanishing and the mist deepened, asked his neighbour, "Is this what we have come 10,000 miles to see?" And then it became dark, and the ship steamed on, and changed her course, and we became conscious of the lights of many ships and distant shore-lights, such as we see from the train as we pass through Bath at night; and then, "Stand by to let go the anchor!" and we were arrived at Hong-Kong.

It is a town of beautiful houses; but its powers of accommodation are not capable of indefinite expansion. The flight from Canton and other causes have filled it. I passed this morning on the verandah of a friend's house, and we agreed that to suggest to the European mind an idea of Victoria and its scenery we must imagine ourselves to be looking down upon a Scotch loch—Loch Lomond or Loch Long will do. We must create by imagination a handsome city of light, airy houses upon the margin of the waters, and climbing up the hills. We must fill the lake with shipping of every nation, and we must pour over all the hills the glare of an Eastern sun. In the harbour there is a fleet of 64 European merchant vessels, whereof ten are steamers. The Yankee and the Dutch flags float about with the union jack. There lies the *Calcutta* with her three tiers of guns and her Admiral's flag, and, dwindled into specks by comparison with her greatness, those saucy little gun-boats. We have given no thought to the "hostile shores" of China, yet just across is the land of the enemy: his rocky mountains seem to rise from behind the last line of shipping, and probably would be still more nearly approached by them but for a cirelet of low rocks which rise like the crater of a volcano in the midst of the strait, letting the blue water, however, eddy in the hollow. At the foot of those lofty hills is an enemy's battery of four guns.

If you dine with a merchant here you notice that when your host takes leave of you at his outer door he has a Malay soldier standing sentinel in his hall with a loaded musket. He explains to you, also, that the house is so arranged that all those long-tailed domestics who waited at dinner are or can be shut off from that part of the house in which the Europeans sleep. If your host should accompany you a few steps towards your own domicile he is careful to buckle his revolver round his waist, and—say it is nine o'clock—he is uncomfortable if he goes ten paces without being challenged by an armed patrol.



CHINESE BARBER.



SEPOYS COOKING.—SKETCHED AT HONG-KONG.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE days of the Session, the Premier says, "are numbered;" and the number, we imagine, does not run very far beyond the festival of St. Grouse. His Lordship does not hold out hope that the Jew question will be settled this year; and as it will be noticed that the leading lawyers in both Houses distinctly announce that a resolution will not save a Hebrew member from the penalties of the statute law, that short cut will scarcely be resorted to. The Divorce Bill is to be pushed on, though Mr. Henley sees reasons for postponing it for another year. The Wills Bill also makes progress; and the House is steady in its refusal to cramp the proposed reform in the way so strenuously advocated by the learned Solicitor-General. To these three topics the important business of the Session is now restricted; and a few smart discussions on Supply will exhaust what may remain of oratorical inspiration.

The Election Committees have, generally speaking, decided that the sitting members have been duly returned. These tribunals have a natural disinclination to unseat an honourable man, and again to throw a constituency into the excitement of an election, merely because some over-zealous attorney's clerk, or extra-energetic canvasser, has foolishly, and without sanction, bribed a voter. There have as yet been out of the mass of inquiries but four cases in which the petition has had a fatal result, namely—Mr. George Moore's, Mr. O'Flaherty's, Mr. Neate's, and Mr. Merry's. In more than one case the petition has been marked as frivolous and vexatious; and in numerous instances the Speaker has received notice of abandonment. The filtration process will just be completed as Parliament rises.

The distinguished novelist, Mr. Thackeray, has failed to obtain a seat for Oxford city. Mr. Cardwell's previous acquaintance with the place, and his numerous and admitted merits, gave him the victory; but Mr. Thackeray polled more votes than Mr. Cardwell did at the general election, when he was defeated by Mr. Neate. The numbers on Tuesday were 1085 to 1018, and the fight was a gallant one. Mr. Thackeray's manly farewell to the electors was worthy of him, and, if he continue to desire to enter Parliament, we imagine that some early vacancy will give him the opportunity. At the same time most people will confess that they had rather think the author in his study, composing another "Newcomes," than know that the honourable and learned gentleman was in the House hearing some honourable member for Little Piddington cavilling for cheese-parings. Mr. Cardwell's restoration to the House is a matter for satisfaction, and we trust that he will remember what chiefly conducted to his previous defeat, and endeavour to reconcile himself to the spirited foreign policy which alone is acceptable to or safe for England.

Much interest has been excited by the notice that Lord Robert Grosvenor had given for an address asking for a Commission which should take into consideration the Liturgy of the Church of England, in order to its being rendered more profitable to the people. It is generally felt, not only that the lapse of years has caused several of the special services to be no longer appropriate, and that language which might be warranted by the deeply-roused national feelings at certain epochs no longer represents the devotional sentiments of the nation, but that the mode in which the clergy and custom have thrust together separate portions of the Liturgy, so as to form long and wearisome services, instead of the briefer ones originally designed, is calculated to repel the worshipper. Especially does this tell upon the younger part of a congregation, which, instead of being trained in the love of the majestic ritual of England, regards it only in connection with protracted, hot, and wearying penance, too gladly eschewed when the young Churchman is at liberty to do as he pleases. It ought to be added that when, to a service of an hour and a half, a sermon of three-quarters of an hour or more is added (and in this respect the Evangelical portion of the clergy are less considerate than the Broad Church), the fatigue of the young is almost justified. As it is from the young that the Church must recruit, if at all, she is surely unwise in repelling them at the outset. These considerations, and many others, would naturally come up in the debate on Lord R. Grosvenor's motion; but, on account of the advanced period of the Session, he will merely make his own statement on Tuesday, and not take a division, should opposition be offered.

Another of those repulsive actions, founded on the pecuniary value of woman, has been tried within the last few days. This, however, was not one of the most offensive class, wherein, as has been cleverly said, "when a woman ceases to be good she becomes goods," but a breach of promise case. At one picnic, among the Clent hills, a lady meets a lover, they become engaged, and she borrows his money in the most affectionate and confiding way. At another picnic, in Haberley Valley, she meets another lover, and prefers him to the first. The first is incensed, calls on her, uses bad language, and tears from her neck a watch and chain, as security for his debt, making her hands bleed in the struggle. She repays him his money, and marries her second admirer. The first brings his action, and has her letters read in court. But courts look very coldly on such proceedings nowadays, and Mr. Baron Bramwell summed up in a way which showed his opinion of actions of the kind, and of this one in particular. The jury found a verdict for the defendants, the lady and her husband.

At this period of the year, when all who can afford it, and many who cannot, betake themselves to the seaside, there is a constant and painful recurrence of fatal accidents during bathing. It is lamentable to read how, during the summer months, families are bereaved, usually of some fine young fellow, perhaps an eldest son, who has dashed out into deep water, is seized with cramp, and returns no more to the cheerful and affectionate circle from which he has laughingly parted half an hour earlier. The beautiful weather now prevailing will hurry off numbers to the coast; and, valueless as most warnings are in the world, it may not be utterly useless if in a journal read in myriads of families we add a word of caution, prompted by several sad cases of very recent occurrence. There is no true courage in braving any danger unnecessarily, and those whose animal spirits lead them to do this would be checked could they for a moment see the sorrow prevalent in at least a score of English families, at this time, in consequence of the recklessness of some dearly-loved member of the household. Those who might have lived to be the honour and support of their families are lying in seaside churchyards, warnings to all who read the melancholy record on the tomb. We have not the least hesitation in thus writing that at which the light-hearted may smile—if, by deterring a reckless bather, it helps to keep one household light in heart, we shall endure the smile very cheerfully.

THE WELLINGTON MONUMENT.—The models designed in competition for the Wellington Monument were exhibited to public view in Westminster Hall on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday (to-day). On Wednesday and Thursday Westminster Hall was open to Peers and members of the House of Commons. The exhibition will be open to the public every Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday, from nine till seven, until further notice. There are nearly a hundred designs. Half the number are contributed from England, Ireland, and Scotland; and Italy, Germany, Spain, and America furnish nearly fifty. The designs by British subjects have black numbers; those by foreign artists red.

MUSIC.

AT HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE the supplementary performances, with reduced prices, which began on Monday last, have been carried on nightly during the week with great success. The rates of admission are such as to afford to families the opportunity of enjoying the magnificent entertainments of this theatre at a very moderate cost. These performances will continue during next week, at the end of which the theatre will close for the season.

AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA Mlle. Victoire Balfe appeared on Tuesday last, for the first time, in "Lucia di Lammermoor;" and in this opera achieved even a greater triumph than she had previously done in the "Sonnambula." Considering that it is the second character that this young actress has ever performed, her personation of the loveliest of Walter Scott's creations is nothing less than marvellous. It is full of beauty, simplicity, truth, and pathos; and there is about it a youthful freshness, a freedom from the conventionalities of the stage, that is inexpressibly charming. As a singer Mlle. Balfe is already a finished artist. Gifted by nature with a pure soprano voice of the finest quality; endowed, moreover, with rare personal beauty, genius, intelligence, and feeling; and possessed of the knowledge and attainments of a thorough musician, she wants nothing but a little more physical strength (which will come of course) to be one of the greatest dramatic singers of the day.

DR. HEINRICH MARSCHNER, the celebrated dramatic composer, whose operas have attained a degree of popularity in Germany little inferior to that of the works of Spohr and Weber, left London this week on his return to Hanover, after a short visit to this country. Marschner's works are well known in England, especially his masterpiece, "The Vampyre," which had a great run when produced in an English dress at the Lyceum, then "the English Opera House," under the management of Mr. Arnold. Before his departure a concert was given in his honour at the Dudley Gallery, in Piccadilly, on Friday, the 17th inst., arranged by his countryman, Herr Reichardt, and attended by a crowded assemblage of our most eminent musicians and amateurs. He and Madame Marschner (who is one of the most accomplished vocalists of the day) were present, and contributed their talents to the entertainment of the company. The overture to his opera, "Hans Heiling," arranged for four performers on two pianos, was played by himself, Mr. Osborne, M. Tedesco, and M. Benedict. One of his grand trios for the piano, violin, and violoncello, was performed by him with Herr Molique and Signor Piatti; and several of his most beautiful songs and duets were sung by Madame Marschner, Mlle. Weststrand, and Herr Reichardt. Madame Ugaldi likewise sang some of her prettiest *morceaux*. Dr. Marschner was received with all the honours due to his distinguished name, and the concert was one of the most pleasant and interesting of the season.

THE "TRIENNIAL MEETING OF THE THREE CHOIRS" is to be held this year at Worcester. It takes place during the week beginning on Monday, the 24th of August. On Tuesday the full morning service in the cathedral will include Handel's *Dettingen Te Deum*; Mendelssohn's anthem, "Hear my prayer;" and a new anthem composed for the occasion by Dr. Elvey. On Wednesday morning Mendelssohn's "Elijah" will be performed; Thursday morning will be devoted to Mendelssohn's "Lobgesang," with selections from Costa's "Eli" and Handel's "Israel in Egypt;" and on Friday (the last) morning the oratorio, according to immemorial usage, will be "The Messiah." The evening concert will consist, as usual, of miscellaneous selections of vocal and instrumental music. The schemes present nothing new, unless we are to regard as novelties Hatton's "Robin Hood" and Macfarren's "May-day," both of which were produced at the Bradford Festival last year. The principal vocal performers will be Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mr. Montem Smith, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Weiss, and Herr Formes. The orchestra and chorus will number about three hundred. The general arrangements are much the same as heretofore; but some alterations have been made in the scale of prices, which, it is believed, will conduce to the success of the meeting and the advantage of its charitable object.

OUR great English violinist, Mr. Cooper, has just sailed for New York on a professional visit to the United States, where he will, doubtless, meet with the reception due to his character and reputation as an artist. Vieuxtemps has also gone to America—a formidable rival; but we are confident that our countryman will maintain the honour of the English school.

THE Baroness Vigier, who, as Sophie Cruvelli, made so great a sensation in our musical world, sang at a concert given at Vannes the other day for the poor, which produced 4000 l.

MEYERBEER is daily expected in Paris, for the purpose of making arrangements for the production of his long-looked-for opera, "L'Africaine."

The committee at Halle for the erection of a monument to Handel have published a report of the result of their labours to the present time. Germany, it would seem, is doing little for the memory of her illustrious son. With the exception of Halle itself—the musician's birthplace, where 1200 thalers have been subscribed—the only places where anything has really been done are Brandenburg, Tubingen, Schwerin, and Genthin; though something is expected from Berlin, Cologne, and Stuttgart. So the principal reliance for the completion of the plan is placed on the London committee, of which Sir George Smart is the chairman, and on the special patronage of our Queen and her Royal Consort.

Mlle. ORTOLANI has been re-engaged at her Majesty's Theatre for three years.

It is said that Miss LOUISA PYNE has taken the Lyceum for the purpose of English opera. We give this as we have heard it, only as an *on-dit*; but shall be very glad if it turn out to be true.

ITALIAN OPERA IN THE PROVINCES.—Mr. Beale has made arrangements for a series of Italian operas in the principal provincial towns commencing in September next. Amongst the artistes engaged will be found Madame Grisi, Madame Alboni, and Madame Gassier, Mlle. Berti, Mlle. Baillou, Mlle. Sedletzke, Signor Mario, Herr Reichardt, Signor Kinni, Mons. Gassier, Signor Annoni, Herr Formes, &c., whilst the band and chorus will consist of a selection of the best performers, vocal and instrumental, from Her Majesty's Theatre and the Royal Italian Opera. The operas to be produced will comprise, amongst others, the "Trovatore," "Don Giovanni," "Huguenots," "Traviata," "Rigoletto," "Norma," "Lucrezia Borgia," and "Semiramide."

THE THEATRES, &c.

LYCEUM.—Madame Ristori has again exhibited her power in comedy. As last year, her author is Goldoni, and the piece "La Locandiera" ("The Mistress of the Hotel"). *Mirandolina* is certainly, in this admirable artist's hands, a great character—perfectly womanly, yet overflowing with wit, and displaying an archness quite wonderful. She has been adroitly described as buoyant, mischief-loving, and heart-whole. The performance of Madame Ristori was on Monday remarkable for its completeness, and is an evidence of versatility which would to us be not a little astonishing if we had any belief in the limitation of real and original power. But, in fact, in these cases the greater includes the less, and many an instance in histrionic biography might be adduced in support of the proposition.

MR. WIGAN'S RETIREMENT.—It is with much satisfaction that we record the probability of the great success of Mr. Wigan's benefit, announced for Friday, when that gentleman, constrained by the unfortunate state of his health, proposed to retire from the management of the OLYMPIC theatre. The committee who undertook the preparations had so far prospered in their work that a larger theatre was desirable, but it could not be obtained. That committee includes the names of Lords Lansdowne, Clanricarde, Ward, Elcho, Goderich, Baron Marochetti, Mr. Monckton Milnes, Mr. Clarkson Stanfield, Mr. Tennyson, Mr. B. W. Procter, Mr. Dickens, Mr. Layard, and others of the highest distinction. The pieces were appropriately chosen—viz., "The Conjugal Lesson," Mr. and Mrs. *Lullaby* being performed by Mr. Robson and Miss Swanborough; "A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing"—*Anne Carey* being supported by Mrs. A. Wigan; and "Masaniello." It is needless to add that the hero was illustrated by the marvellous genius of Mr. Robson. But the chief attraction of the evening was the promise of the "farewell address" to be delivered by Mr. Wigan himself. And with this effort concludes the public life of a man whose upward progress has been slowly and surely maintained, and who worked his way to the highest position in a peculiar line of art by force of his own original talent. We had hoped that a long career was destined for Mr. Wigan; and that he

might have been permitted to have carried his conquests into those more interior places of the drama into which bolder, but not better, men have so heedlessly rushed. The few regular comic characters which he lately assumed demonstrated his ability to give them a natural investment, such as would finally deliver them from those mere stage conventions which are the death of true and genuine art. Mr. Wigan would have infused into such representations a new vitality. But it is now in vain to speculate. The retired artist will take into private life with him the sympathies of his more intimate admirers, and the grateful recollections of the public.

THE JERROLD TESTIMONIAL.—On Wednesday Mr. Thackeray delivered a lecture at St. Martin's Hall, in honour of Douglas Jerrold's memory, to a numerous audience. The title of the lecture was "Week-day Preachers," meaning by the term those public teachers who, by means of their writings and otherwise, instructed the common mind in a manner which in the present time was irresistibly felt. The lecture confessedly consisted of materials used on former occasions, both in America and in London; and was composed of an amalgam from Mr. Thackeray's oration on "Humour and Charity," delivered at the Marylebone Institution, and his series on the "British Humorists." Having exhausted, however, the old ground, Mr. Thackeray continued the subject by adducing Steele and Addison as the pioneers of that style of modern literature which preferred subjects from ordinary life, and addressed itself to the sympathies of the people. Burns and Béranger were cited in this connection; and then, in reference to the stage, Mr. Jerrold's merits were discussed, particularly in regard to "Black-eyed Susan." He also alluded to the penny theatres. In the productions of this class popular rights were advocated against aristocratic pretension. Charles Lamb, Thomas Hood, and *Punch* were then alluded to; and a paper from the last, owning Mr. Thackeray for its author—"The Curate's Walk"—was read, for the purpose, it would appear, of instituting a comparison between himself and Mr. Dickens, whom he acknowledged to be the more pleasant and benevolent writer. In conclusion, he expatiated on Mr. Jerrold's wit, lamented his removal from the "kindly board," and commended the intrinsic benevolence of his character. The lecture was frequently and vehemently applauded.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ON Friday and Saturday last reviews and a sham fight took place at Aldershot before her Majesty, who was pleased to express her warm approbation of the appearance and conduct of the troops.

His Royal Highness the General Commanding-in-Chief will hold a levee at one o'clock on Monday next, the 27th inst.

A REVIEW took place at ten o'clock on Thursday morning at Wormwood Scrubs of the 1st and 2nd Life Guards, by Major-General the Earl of Cardigan, the Inspector-General of Cavalry. To enable the whole of the two regiments to be present the duty of the Horse Guards was taken at six o'clock the preceding evening by the 11th Hussars.

THE SARDINIAN MEDAL.—A number of the medals given by the King of Sardinia to meritorious British soldiers for service in the Crimea were distributed at Woolwich on Saturday last, with a degree of ceremony. The name of each of the officers and men to whom the honour was awarded was called out by Captain Freeth, Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General, and Colonel Bloomfield presented the medals, at the same time heartily shaking hands with each recipient. The medal is in every respect a beautiful specimen of art.

ORDERS have been received by the authorities to increase the strength of every effective regiment in Ireland to 1000 strong.

GOVERNMENT has decided on sending out as early as possible a force of 1500 Royal Marines to China, together with one company of Marine Artillery, for the purpose of relieving the 23rd Welsh Fusiliers, 82nd, 90th Light Infantry, and 93rd Highlanders, ordered from China to India.

THE ARMY DRESS REGULATIONS.—The *United Service Gazette* gives the following extract from the new book of dress regulations for the Army which may prove interesting for the infantry:—The blue frock-coat is now permitted to be worn on fatigue or orderly duties, and on parade when the men are in shell-jackets. Brevet field officers are to wear leather scabbards upon all duties on foot. The tunic is to have eight buttons in front, the cuff $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth; skirt, $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth for an officer four feet nine inches, with a variation of half an inch for every difference in the wearer's height. Distinguishing badges of rank to be embroidered in silver on the tunic, and in gold on the blue frock and shell-jacket. Lieutenant-Colonels to wear two stripes of half-inch lace round the top of the tunic; Majors, one. Adjutants to wear steel spurs; the spurs of all mounted officers to be crane-neck. Regimental trousers, whether blue or Oxford mixture, are to have a scarlet welt a quarter of an inch broad down the outward seam. Sword-knots to be crimson and gold, with acorn head. Light infantry and fusilier regiments are to wear green and white plumes $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches high; Light infantry and grenadier companies of the line to wear the usual red and white tuft of the battalion companies.

The naval ports have assumed quite a military aspect—similar to that which they were during the embarkations for the Crimean war! Hardly a day passes without some troops being dispatched. The Duke of Cambridge has issued orders that the whole of the troops belonging to the Indian depôts at the Provisional Battalion, Chatham, proceeding to India shall be fully armed and equipped with the best description of the Enfield rifle-musket. The officers and men belonging to the various corps at Chatham garrison have undergone a regular course of instruction in the use of that weapon, with which the whole of the troops under orders to embark for India are well acquainted.

THE Lords of the Admiralty paid their official annual visit of inspection to Chatham Dockyard on Wednesday. The party consisted of Sir Charles Wood, G.C.B., First Lord; Rear-Admiral H. Eden; Captain A. Milne; Baldwin Walker, K.C.B., Surveyor of the Navy; and Col. Green.

NEW WORKS OF DEFENCE AT GOSPORT.—The Government have just completed the purchase of a tract of land, encompassing the town of Gosport, at a distance of about two miles from it, for the purpose of establishing upon it a new line of fortifications. The land purchased is a broad belt, of about 300 yards in width, and extends from Frater's Point, at the upper end of Portsmouth Harbour, to the sea in the neighbourhood of Stokes Bay. In its direction it bisects the Fareham-road, a short distance to the northward of the hamlet of Brockhurst, then crosses the Itchfield-road to the eastward of the picturesque chapel of Rowner, from which point it bears away towards Grange, part of which estate it includes, and terminates, as before stated, at the sea at the west horn of Stokes Bay, near which, and included in the Government purchase, is the new fort already built, named Gower, after the estate of Mr. Leveson Gower, which has also been purchased.

THE MUTINY IN INDIA.—We have been requested to make the following correction in the name of one of those whose gallant exploits were recorded in this Journal of the 4th instant. It was Lieutenant Henry Möller, of the 11th Native Infantry (not Lieut. Miller, 20th N.I.), who distinguished himself so heroically at Meerut, as there recorded. This young officer is interpreter to his own regiment, and, we believe, to the 20th N.I. He is a brother of the late Major Möller, of the 50th (Queen's Own) who was shot in the trenches before Sebastopol while gallantly cheering on his men to repel a sortie of the enemy on the 20th of Dec., 1854.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Lat. $51^{\circ} 28' 6''$ N.; Long. $0^{\circ} 18' 47''$ W.; Height above sea 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOMETER.		WIND.		RAIN in 24 hours.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum at 10 a.m.	Maximum at 10 p.m.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours.	Read at 10 a.m.
July 15	30.001	72.7	56.0	57	1	54.8	84.5	N. E. NW.	136	.000
" 16	29.864	64.8	48.1	57	6	56.0	73.9	SW. W.	227	.000
" 17	30.088	64.7	50.3	61	3	51.9	75.5	SW. W.	158	.195
" 18	30.191	65.3	55.2	71	6	54.4	74.2	W.	160	.001
" 19	30.082	70.0	55.1	61	6	55.8	80.4	SSW. E.	171	.000
" 20	29.996	68.0	54.5	64	5	55.8	79.3	SW. WNW.	231	.000
" 21	30.045	65.1	52.2	65	8	51.8	73.3	SW. W.	301	.000

The daily means are obtained from observations made at 8h. and 10h. a.m., and 2h., 6h., and 10h. p.m., on each day, except Sunday, when the first observation is omitted. The corrections for diurnal variation are taken from the Tables of Mr. Glaisher. The "Dew-point" and "Relative Humidity" are calculated from observations of the dry and wet bulb thermometers, by Dr. Apjohn's Formula and Dalton's Tables of the Tension of Vapour. The movement of the wind is given by a self-recording Robinson's Anemometer, the amount stated for each day being that registered from midnight to midnight.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The recent entries for the Derby and St. Leger were never so great, and, with the exception of one year, the same may be said of the Oaks. By way of showing an example, our ever-green Premier has entered a Flying Dutchman colt for the former stake. Pandango has, we are glad to hear, been got quite round by rest and care, and will most probably run for the Doncaster Cup, and perhaps for the Queen's Plate at York, if the ground suits. Let us hope that his old jockey, Job Marson, will be there once more to ride him; for it is a national loss to have such an artist absent from the saddle so long. Adamas, who was not quite up to the mark, showed wonderful gameness, but a great lack of pace, in the Liverpool St. Leger, for which Augury, who was second to him, ran in something like her last year's form. Honeystick, the first born of that ugliest of Derby impostors, Honeywood, won his race at Nottingham, and was claimed for £600 by Mr. Richard Sutton, whose Cockatoo was successful in the Chesterfield Handicap. Borderer was a double victor in the Queen's Plate and the Nottingham Handicap. The latter proved the finest handicap of the season so far, and its maker, Mr. Richard Johnson, had the pleasure of hitting off from his judge's box the first five within half a length of each other!

The "Neasdon Harriers" have been disposed of, and hence there will be no sales for great interest at Tattersall's on Monday; but on Friday a large sale of hunting mares and foals, hunters, &c., including two prize animals, will be sold at Gayton Manor, near Louth; a rural festival, quite after the men of Lincolnshire's heart. The four-year-old Morgan Rattler hunter is very highly spoken of. Boston races (where the 9 st. raising-point has been very properly adopted in the handicap) is fixed for the same day, and Tenbury and Lough on Thursday. Goodwood ranges from Tuesday to Friday, and the four stakes which closed last week have filled remarkably well. The remainder of the list is not very strong. Meestissema (3 lbs.), Chevalier d'Industrie, Zuyder Zee, and Ayacanora, are in the Gratwicke; and Gin, 5 lb. extra, and Lord of Lorn, in the Ham. On Wednesday Aleppo and Melissa are in the Four; Anton and Blink Bonny in the Three; and Cock-a-doodle-doo, Sermon, Longrange, Streamer, and Knight of Kars in the Two-Year-Old Bentineck Memorials. On Thursday Lord of Lorn and Vandyke may meet in the Molecombe; Sunbeam, Cock-a-doodle-doo, and Gin (5 lb. extra) in the Finton; and one or both of the American horses will come out in the Cup. The ground will, we fear, not suit the infirm Fazzoletto (9 st. 1 lb.); Gemma di Vergy (7 st. 9 lb.) seems over-weighted; and we do not see how Anton (7 st. 7 lb.) will ever stay. A 5 lb. allowance is claimed for Arsenal, on the ground that, as the Queen's Vase has no price affixed to it by its Royal donor, it has no right to be valued, so as to make this horse "a winner of £100 or upwards." Admiral Rous, we believe, thinks differently; but we trust that the stewards will give "Mr. Howard" the benefit of the doubt, as he seems to have considerable reason on his side, as well as the most eminent legal opinion on horse-racing in Westminster Hall. St. Giles (7 st. 7 lb.) has been kept, it is said, for this; but, with 7 st. 2 lb., Arsenal should be hard to beat. Of the American horses absolutely nothing is known; and Mr. Ten Broek (who has, by the by, some Derby nominations for 1859), and their stalwart negro attendant, keep their own counsel.

The show of blood horses at Salisbury terminated in favour of Hobbie Noble, who was sold as a two-year-old to Mr. Merry for £650. Spencer, by Cotherstone, who also belongs to a Yorkshireman, was second; and Theon (very beautiful and gay for his years), Little Brownie, Cock of the West, The Circassian, Knight of Gwynne, Lascelles, Flagellator, Mr. Stiggins, Stolforth, Clumsy, Master Robin, and two Arabs were among the defeated. The same fate befel two more Arabs in the hackney stallion list, which was won by Hotspur, the horse who ran second to the Dutchman for the Derby. The prize hunter mare was a very weight-carrying brown out of Wiltshire; and the cart-horse show was most glorious.

Monday has no less than six regattas—to wit, the Royal Western Yacht Club; the Greenwich Annual; Mr. Wentzell's (Lambeth); the Serpentine Subscription Cup for Model Yachts; the Bankside, and the Galway Bay; while the Leander Club, also, row an eight-oar race with Westminster from Westminster to Putney. On Tuesday Childs and Pocock row from Woolwich to Limehouse, for £30 a side; Wednesday is fixed for St. John's, Horselydown, Regatta; and the London Rowing Club Four-oared Race; and Friday for the annual contest for Doggett's Coat and Badge.

The A. E. E. and the T. A. E. E. meet for their return match at Lord's, on Monday; and on Thursday the former play twenty-two at Derby, and the latter Lord Stamford's twenty-two at Enville Hall. On Wednesday the Harrovians under twenty play the Etonians of that ilk at Lord's; and on Friday the M.C.C. contend against the present Harrovians, on the same ground. The North v. South has been a finely-contested match; and the latter won by 14 runs, thanks to Caffyn, who scored 90 in the first innings, but 0 in the second.

NOTTINGHAM JULY MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Honeystick, 1. Polly Johnson, 2. Sherwood Handicap.—Prince of Orange, 1. Courtenay, 2. Castle Plate Handicap.—Olenitz, 1. Miss Nightingale, 2. Nottinghamshire Handicap.—Borderer, 1. Hamlet, 2. Plate of 30 soys.—Fashion, 1. Admiral of the White, 2. Robin Hood Stakes.—Filly by Turnus, 1. Ronconi, 2. Short Stakes.—Chester, 1. Lady Antree, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Forest Plate.—Miss Nightingale, 1. Barbary, 2. Juvenile Selling Stakes.—Thornhill, 1. Jeremy Diddler, 2. Chesterfield Handicap.—Cockatoo, 1. Queen Bess, 2. Nottingham Nursery Plate.—Maggie Lauder, 1. Conductor, 2. Her Majesty's Plate.—Borderer, 1. Pretty Boy, 2. Bunney Park Stakes.—Terrie, 1. Honeystick, 2.

STAMFORD RACES.—THURSDAY.

Stamford St. Leger.—Turbit, 1. Gossamer colt, 2. Colleyweston Stakes.—York, 1. Bess Lyon, 2. Plate. £50.—Ulysses walked over. Burying Stakes.—Dead heat between Turbit and Tame Deer. Tame Deer walked over, and the stakes were divided.

TATTERSALL'S.—THURSDAY.

GOODWOOD STAKES.—8 to 1 agst Fisherman (5), 10 to 1 agst Martinet (1), 14 to 1 agst Hubert (1), 16 to 1 agst Van Dunck (1), 100 to 1 agst Gunboat. GOODWOOD CUP.—6 to 1 agst Anton (off), 8 to 1 bar one (off), 10 to 1 agst Potocki (1).

CRICKET.

The County of Kent v. Marylebone played their return match at Gravesend on Thursday and Friday (last week), the latter winning with thirty runs to spare. The following is the score:—Marylebone: 1st inn., 115; 2nd inn., 115—total, 230. Kent: 1st inn., 108; 2nd inn., 92—total, 200. The United All Ireland Eleven played the Twenty-Two of Dublin and District in the Rotundo Gardens, Dublin, last week. The ground was honoured with the presence of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant. The band of the 1st Royal Dragoons attended, and played several choice selections of music. The game finished in favour of the United, they winning in one innings and 47 runs over. Score:—The Twenty-two, 103 and 37; total, 140. United Eleven, 187.

The Officers of the Third Battalion of Grenadier Guards v. the Officers of Scots Fusilier Guards: This return match was played in the Home Park, Windsor, on Saturday last, the Grenadier Guards being again victorious.—Grenadier Guards, 206; Scots Fusilier Guards: First Innings, 88; Second Innings, 62.

All England Eleven v. Twenty-two of Uppingham and District: After three days' contest at Uppingham, this match was brought to a conclusion on Saturday last—All England winning by 40 runs.—All England: First Innings, 43; Second Innings, 86. Uppingham: First Innings, 31; Second Innings, 58.

The Baylis Club v. the Camden: This match was played on Friday last, at the Middlesex and Eton ground, Primrose-hill—Baylis winning by seven wickets.—Baylis: First Innings, 70; Second Innings, 69. Camden: First Innings, 57; Second Innings, 78.

Grosvenor Club v. St. John's-wood: This match was played at Lord's Ground, on Friday week. The Grosvenor came off victorious in one innings, and 35 runs over.

Wellington Club v. Islington Albion: This return match was played on Wednesday week, on the new St. John's-wood Ground, Finchley-road, and was won by the Albion by 41 runs.—Wellington: First Innings, 48; Second Innings, 57. Albion: First Innings, 72; Second Innings, 74.

North of England v. South of England: This three-day match was brought to a conclusion at Lord's on Wednesday morning in favour of the South by 14 runs. Score:—South—1st Innings, 165; 2nd Innings, 95. North—1st Innings, 124; 2nd Innings, 122.

Kennington Club v. Thames Ditton: The return match between these clubs was played on Tuesday, on the Surrey Ground, Kennington Oval, when Kennington again proved victorious, beating their opponents by 54

runs. One inning each only was played. Thames Ditton, 76; Kennington, 130.

Belgravia Amateur Club: This young club had a field-day for the first time this season on Tuesday, at Ham-common. Sides being chosen by Messrs. Cowell and Elliott, the former proved victorious by 67 runs. Score:—Mr. Cowell's Side—1st Innings, 110; 2nd Innings, 77. Mr. Elliott's Side—1st Innings, 57; 2nd Innings, 63.

AQUATICS.

The Royal Thames Yacht Club closed a prosperous season on Saturday with a fine match among boats of its fourth class. The entry list, which was extremely full, was as follows:—The Silver Cloud, 8 tons, Mr. T. Hewitt; the Emily, 8 tons, Mr. R. Hewitt; the Quiver, 12 tons, Mr. T. Chamberlain; the Undine, 8 tons, Mr. E. Searle; the Cormorant, 10 tons, Mr. J. T. Talmadge; the Julia, 7 tons, Mr. P. Turner; the Violet, 9 tons, Mr. J. R. Kirby. The leading boats finished in the following order:—Quiver (the winner), 7h. 7 min. 20 sec.; Violet (second prize), 7h. 12 min. 45 sec.; Cormorant, 7h. 16 min. 20 sec.; Julia, 7h. 21 min. 5 sec. Lord Alfred Paget afterwards presented the prizes with appropriate remarks.

A pair-oared race among some tradesmen of Chelsea for a "small" money-prize took place on Monday evening from Putney-bridge to Chelsea New-bridge. The competitors were J. Rundell and H. Windsor, and G. Ellis and W. Sawyer; Messrs. Rundell and Windsor winning by about three lengths.

A scullers' race took place on Saturday last for £20 a side between Charles Hales and Edward May, members of the Times Unity Club. Hales went right away and won as he liked.

The Isle of Man purse of 50 sovereigns was gained at that regatta last week by the Stella, 41, C. T. Couper, jun., Esq., R.N.Y.C. The other competing yachts were the Oithona, Cyclone, and Crusader.

The Cork Harbour Yacht Club (the oldest in the kingdom) commenced its regatta on Tuesday week. The great event of the regatta came off on the second day, when the time-race for yachts exceeding twenty tons took place. Prize £50. There were entered the Mosquito, Wildfire, Vigilant, and Tar. The yachts had a capital start, but the Wildfire proved herself, on this occasion, a faster sailer than any of her competitors.

The Barnes and Mortlake regatta was rowed on Tuesday. The following are the results of the principal races:—Pair-oared race, won easily by Messrs. A. Sarge and Wray; Junior Scullers, won by Mr. C. Patterson; Four-oared race, won by a length by the Bachelor crew, Messrs. Seymour, Price, A. Warner, W. Woodbridge (stroke), and H. Weston (coxswain); Senior Scullers, won easily by Mr. W. Farrar; Outrigged gigs, won by a length by Messrs. Woodbridge and Price.

A TRAIN on the Marietta Cincinnati Railroad (United States) was lately precipitated down an embankment to a distance of 53 feet, smashing the cars to fragments. Three persons were killed, eight injured probably beyond recovery, and a dozen others more or less mangled.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

UNDER the impression that the next advices from India will be of an unfavourable character, there have been more sellers than buyers of National Stocks this week. The fall in the quotations has not exceeded ½ per cent, yet the market generally has continued in a very inactive state. The Unfunded Debt has likewise given way in price, and India Bonds have sold as low as 208. discount.

Much excitement has been observed on the subject of the monetary power of the East India Company to repress the extensive spirit of mutiny in Bengal, because we are told officially that the whole of the present enormous expenses must be met by the Company, and that no portion will be defrayed by the English Treasury. The debt of the Company, including the £2,000,000 lately raised at Calcutta, is about £52,000,000.

This is certainly not a very large amount; but how are additional means to be raised to meet pressing wants? It is said that the Company will shortly reduce the rate at which they will draw bills upon the various presidencies. Such a measure, if sufficiently extensive, will produce additional means at home; but our impression is that nothing short of a loan for several millions will enable the Company to keep large masses of British troops in the field, and thus effectually crush the insurrection.

The applications to the Bank of England for a discount accommodation have not been extensive. Out of doors money has been very plentiful: 60 days' paper has been taken at 5½ to 5½, and four months' bills have been done at 5½ to 5½ per cent.

The imports of bullion have been very moderate, and partly on French account. Several parcels of silver have reached us from the Continent to meet the Eastern demand, and it is expected that the next packet for India will carry out over £500,000.

On Monday the fluctuations in Home Stocks were very moderate. The Three per Cents Reduced were 92½ 9½; Consols for Money, 91½ 9½; New Three per Cents, 92½ 9½; Long Annuities, 1885, 18½; India Bonds, 108 to 108½; Consols for Account, 92½ 9½; Exchequer Bills, par to 48. dis.; Exchequer Bonds, 98½ 9½. India Stock was 218. The dealings on Tuesday were very limited, at about the previous day's quotations.—Bank Stock marked 214 215½ and 216; the Three per Cents Reduced were 92½ and 91½; Consols for Money, 92 and 91½; Ditto for Account, 92 to 92½; New Three per Cents, 92½ down to 91½; New Two-and-a-half per Cents, 77; India Bonds, 128 to 128½; Exchequer Bills, par to 58. dis.; Exchequer Bonds, 98½ 9½. On the following day the market was very dull, and prices were drooping.—The Reduced Three per Cents realised 92½ down to 91½; Consols for Transfer, 91½ 9½ 9½; Ditto for Account, 92 and 91½; New Three per Cents, 92½ down to 91½; New Two-and-a-half per Cents, 75½; Long Annuities, 1880, 2 7-16 ½; Ditto, 1859, 24; Ditto, 1860, 23-16; Ditto, 1885, 18-16; Exchequer Bills, 28 to 28½; India Bonds, 128 to 208. dis.; Exchequer Bonds, 98½. On Thursday the directors of the Bank of England made no change in the rate of discount; yet rather extensive operations were entered into for a fall.—Consols for Money were done at 91½ 9½ 9½; for the Account the prices were 91½ 9½. The New Three per Cents were done at 91½ 9½; and the Reduced, 91½ 9½. India Stock was 215 to 216; and Bank Stock, 216. Exchequer Bills were lower, viz., 78 to 78½ discount; and the Bonds, 98½ 9½. India Bonds were 208. discount.

The transactions in the Foreign House have been tolerably numerous, with the exception of Turkish Securities having slightly fallen in price: the quotations generally have ruled steady. Granada Two-and-a-quarter per Cents, Deferred, have realised 6; Mexican Three per Cents, 22½; Peruvian Four-and-a-half per Cents, 81; Ditto, Three per Cents, 55; Russian Four-and-a-half per Cents, 96½; Russian Five per Cents, 109½; Spanish Three per Cents, 40; Ditto, Committee's Certificates of Coupon, 54 per cent; Turkish Six per Cents, 95½; Turkish Four per Cents, 102½; Belgian Four-and-a-half per Cents, 97; Dutch Two-and-a-half per Cents, 64½ ex div.; Dutch Four per Cents, 98½; Brazilian Four-and-a-half per Cents, 1852, 96½; French Three per Cents, 67½ 75c.

Large dividends having been declared this week, all Joint-stock Bank Shares have been in request, and prices have had an upward tendency:—Australia have realised 91; Bank of London, 48; British North America, 66; Colonial, 29 ex div.; Commercial of London, 22½; London and Westminster, 47½ ex div.; Oriental, 36½; Provincial of Ireland, 62; and Union of London, 26½ ex div.

Most Miscellaneous Securities have been very firm in price. St. Katharine Dock, 92 ex div.; Southampton, 80; Australian Agricultural, 22½; Crystal Palace, 17; Ditto, Preference, 5½; Electric Telegraph, 100; General Steam Navigation, 23½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, New, 15; South Australian Land, 34; Berlin Waterworks, 5; Lambeth, 95; Hungerford Bridge, 6½; Commercial Dock, 100½ ex div.; London Dock, 101½ ex div.

The dealings in the Railway Share Market have been far from extensive, yet the fall in the quotations has been trifling. The House of Commons has rejected the clause introduced into the Great Northern Railway Bill to prevent the preference shareholders asserting their claims in a court of law. The following are the official closing quotations on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 5½; Caledonian, 75½; East Anglian, 20½; Eastern Counties, 11½; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 34½; Great Northern, 98½; Ditto, A Stock, 92; Ditto, B Stock, 122; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 105; Great Western, 63½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 100½; London and Brighton, 110½; London and North-Western, 103½; London and South-Western, 100½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 43½; Midland, 73½; North British, 45; North-Eastern—Berwick, 91½; Ditto, York, 73½; North Staffordshire, 13; North and South-Western Junction, 10½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 34½; South Devon, 18; South-Eastern, 74½; South Yorkshire and River Don, 15; West End of London and Crystal Palace, 6½ ex div.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—London and Greenwich, 12½ ex div.; Midland—Bradford, 91½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 96; East Anglian, Class A, Five per Cent, 95; Eastern Counties, No. 2, 2 prem.; Great Northern Four-and-a-half per Cent, 101½; Great Western, Birmingham Stock, 73; Ditto, Chester Shares, 15; London and South-Western, Seven per Cent Stock, 108; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 58, 5½; Midland Consolidated, Four-and-a-half per Cent Stock, 96½; North-Eastern—York, H. and S. Purchase, 9½ ex div.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, first guarantee, 11½; South-Eastern—Reading Annuities, 23; Waterford and Kilkenny, 27½.

BRITISH POSSESSIONS.—East Indian, 100 ex int.; Ditto, E Shares Extension, 5; Grand Trunk of Canada, 55 ex div.; Ditto, Six per Cent Debenture, 88½ ex div.; Great Indian Peninsula, 10½ ex int.; Ditto New, 4 ex int.; Great Western of Canada, 21½; Ditto New, 11½; Ditto Bonds, payable in 1876, with option till 1890, 112½; Madras Five per Cent, 10½ ex int.; Ditto Third Extension, 4½ ex int.

FOREIGN.—Dutch Rhenish, 9½; Dutch Luxembourg, 8½; Lombardo-Venetian, 10½ ex int. and ex div.; Paris and Lyons, 54½. There have been very few dealings in Mining Shares:—Great Wheal

Alfred have marked 8; North Wheal Basset, 12½; Sortridge Consols Mining Company, 2½; Wheal Trelawney, 25½; St. John del Rey, 10½; Cobbe Copper, 45; and Santiago de Cuba, 2½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE, July 20.—The supply of English wheat to-day's market was seasonably good, and the demand for all kinds ruled heavy in the extreme, at a decline in the quotations of fully 5s. per quarter. About fifty quarters of new Talavera, grown in Essex, were in the market in good condition. Foreign wheat, the show of which was extensive, was very dull, and 3s. to 3s. 6d. per quarter lower to purchase. In floating cargoes very little was passing. Fine English barley supported previous rates, but inferior foreign gave way 1s. per quarter. Malts were in moderate request on former terms. The supply of foreign oats was extensive, and the oat trade ruled heavy at rather lower currencies. Beans sold at full prices, but pens were less active. New white and dun qualities were in the market. The flour trade was in a depressed state, and all country marks were 2s. per 260 lbs. lower.

July 22.—The amount of business done here to-day was wholly confined to small samples of produce, at about Monday's decline in value.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 47s. to 62s.; ditto, white, 48s. to 64s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 48s. to 60s.; ryegrass, 32s. to 35s.; grinding barley, 28s. to 32s.; distilling ditto, 37s. to 39s.; malted ditto, 40s. to 44s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 67s. to 75s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 68s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 75s.; Chevalier, 70s. to 78s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 21s. to 27s.; potato ditto, 28s. to 31s.; Troughal and Cork, black, 20s. to 26s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 32s.; tick beans, 36s. to 38s.; green peas, 42s. to 45s.; maple, 42s. to 47s.; white, 40s. to 42s.; butter, 40s. to 44s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 52s. to 54s.; Suffolk, 52s. to 40s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 38s. to 42s. per 260 lb.

Seeds.—Red clover seed is steady, at very full prices. New seeds are now coming to hand, but the inquiry for them is limited. Cakes are less active, but linseed is tolerably firm.

Lined, English crushing, 70s. to 71s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 67s. to 69s.; hempseed, 42s. to 44s. per quarter. Linseed oil, 110s. to 112s. per quarter. English rapeseed, 75s. to 80s. per quarter. Lined cakes, English, 110s. to 111 10s.; ditto, foreign, 110 10s. to 111 10s.; rape cakes, 16 10s. to 16 5s. per ton. Canary, 78s. to 88s. per quarter.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 8d. to 9d.; of household ditto, 6d. to 7½d. per 4½ loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 63s. 8d.; barley, 37s. 9d.; oats, 27s. 9d.; ryegrass, 42s. 6d.; beans, 48s. 11d. to 49s. 4d. per 4½ cwt.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 62s. 1d.; barley, 38s. 3d.; oats, 27s. 2d.; ryegrass, 42s. 6d.; beans, 48s. 3d.; peas, 43s. 8d.

English Grain sold last Week.—Wheat, 61,704; barley, 1038; oats, 6102; rye, 761; beans, 2468; peas, 261 quarters.

Tea.—Our market has a fine appearance, and some large quantities of common solid congrua have changed hands at 2d. per lb. The show of sample is by no means extensive.

Sugar.—All raw sugars continue in the extreme, and prices have further given way 2s. to fully 3s. per cwt. West India has sold at 50s. to 54s.; Mauritius, 40s. 6d. to 50s., and Bengal, 50s. to 56s. 6d. per cwt. Refined goods move off heavily, at 1s. per cwt. less money.

Coffee.—There has been only a limited inquiry for this article, and in some instances prices have given way 1s. per quarter.

Rice.—Scarcely any transactions have taken place in this article. Nominally, prices are lower.

Provisions.—Irish butter of good and fine quality has changed hands at a slight improvement in value; but foreign parcels are rather drooping, the top price being 10½ per cwt. English is selling on former terms. Fine wheaten flour, 100s. to 110s. per cwt. Bacon and hams are dull, and inferior qualities may be had on easier terms.

Tallow.—The demand is by no means active; yet P.Y.C., on the spot, has advanced to 50s. per cwt. For the last three months the quotation is 50s. 6d.

Oil.—Lined oil, on the spot, is quoted at 43s. 10s. Foreign refined rape has sold at 43s. 10s.; brown 45s. 10s. In other oils very little is doing. Spirits of turpentine, 42s. to 43s. 6d. rough, 10s. 3d. to 10s. 6d.

Wool.—We have to report a dull sale for rum, on easier terms. Proof Leewards, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 8d.; East India, 2s. 6d. per gallon. No actual change has taken place in the value of brandy, but the demand continues heavy. Malt spirit is tolerably firm.

Hay and Straw.—Old meadow hay, £3 to 4 7s. 6d.; new, ditto, £3 5s. to 4 10s.; old clover ditto, £3 10s. to 4 5s.; new, ditto, £3 10s. to 4 10s.; and straw, £1 8s. to 11 12s. per load.

Cattle.—Hollywell, 16s.; Tanfield Moor, 14s.; Riddell, 15s. 6d.; Braddyl's, 17s.; Hutton, 18s. 6d.; South Hutton, 18s. 3d.; Stewart's, 18s. 6d.; Lough Hall, 18s. 6d.; Kellie, 17s. 6d.; Tees, 18s. 6d. per ton.

Hops.—The plantation accounts are less favourable, and the duty has fallen to £100,000 and £105,000. Most kinds of hops are in request, and prices have an upward tendency.

Wool.—The public sales are progressing steadily, at 1d. to 1½d. per lb. advance compared with the previous series.

Provisions.—The supplies are good, and the demand is inactive, at from 3s. to 6s. per cwt. Metropolitan Cattle Market.—The show of stock has been less extensive, and the demand has slightly improved.

Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 2s. 10d. to 4s. 10d.; lamb, 5s. 0d. to 6s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 1d.; pork, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 1d.; and 8 lb. cwt. sink the total.

Vegetables and Lard.—The trade generally has ruled inactive, as follows:—Beef, from 2s. 8d. to 4s. 2d.; mutton, 2s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; lamb, 5s. 0d. to 6s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 1d.; pork, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 1d.; and 8 lb. cwt. sink the total.

ROBERT HEBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JULY 17.

BREVET.—Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Campbell, G.C.B., to have the local rank of General in the East Indies: Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. Crawford, F. Dick, and W. Unwin to be Colonels in the Army; Lieut. J. Chadwick to have the honorary rank of Captain in the Army; Lieut. Colonel T. R. Webb, W. Whitcombe, J. A. Butler to have the rank of Major-General; Brevet Col. T. H. Johnston to be Major-General; Brevet Lieut.-Col. the Hon. A. C. Leper to be Colonel; Major C. H. Trush-Hecker to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Capt. G. B. Stoney to be Major; Brevet Col. H. A. Hankey to be Major-General; Brevet Lieut.-Col. W. Long to be Colonel; Major J. Ward to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Capt. W. Ready to be Major.

ADMIRALTY, JULY 16.

Vice-Admiral the Right Hon. G. Leveson, a Earl of Caryfort, on the Reserved Half-pay List, to be Admiral on the active list; Vice-Admiral the Right Hon. George, Earl of Glasgow, C.B., to be Admiral of the Blue; Vice-Admiral of the White Sir G. Napier, K.C.B., to be Vice-Admiral of the Red; Vice-Admiral of the Blue Sir G. R. Sartorius to be Vice-Admiral of the White; Rear-Admirals on the Reserved Half-pay List his Grace Algernon Duke of Northumberland, K.G., J. Carter, H. Meynell, to be Vice-Admirals on the same list; Rear-Admiral of the Red A. Fanshawe, C.B., to be Vice-Admiral of the Blue; Rear-Admiral of the White Sir G. R. Lambert, K.C.B., to be Rear-Admiral of the Red; Rear-Admiral of the Blue C. R. D. Bethune, C.B., to be Rear-Admiral of the White; Captains W. Hargood and Sir T. R. Thompson, Bart., to be Rear-Admirals on the Reserved Half-pay List; Captain R. Smart, K.H., to be Rear-Admiral of the Blue; Captain W. Robertson, on the Retired List, has also been promoted to be a Retired Rear-Admiral, without increase of pay.

BANKRUPTS.

W. G. BALLE, Islington-green, tailor.—P. BRAVERY, Brighton, furniture-broker.—E. B. BOWMAN, Islington, apothecary.—J. W. GRAY, Bishops Waltham, Hampshire, commission agent.—R. WHARFON, Nottingham, machine maker and engineer.—C. HUST, Surrey-place, Old Kent-road cheesemonger.—W. LAKE, Ipswich, Devonshire, maltster, brewer, and coal-dealer.—S. ROWLEY, Cambridge, fellsomonger and farmer.—H. FILLER, St. John's Wood-terrace, Regent's Park, brick, slate, and lime merchant.—W. HEDON, Huddersfield, cloth merchant.—J. NELSON, Stratford-terrace, New-road, Hammersmith.

TUESDAY, JULY 21.

WAR OFFICE, JULY 21.

Royal Artillery: Brevet Major J. Godby to be Captain; Lieut. J. W. Collington to be second Captain.

Royal Engineers: Lieuts. R. M. Smith and C. W. Wilson to be Lieutenants.

BREVET.—Lieut.-Col. G. Gambier, C.B., to be Colonel in the Army.

BANKRUPTS.

A. LOW, Lower Homerton, Middlesex, cattle salesman.—J. JORDAN, jun., Campden-hill, Kensington, builder. C. BAKER, Southampton, timber merchant.—A. RUST, Hedge-row, Islington-green, host.—L. de W. COCHRAN, late of South Sea House, Threadneedle-street, shipowner and merchant. R. F. ALLEN, Norwich, tinsman and brazer.—E. C. VERRITT, East Rudham, Norfolk, plumber and glazier.—C. P. BURNETT, Lincoln, tailor.—T. FLEMING, Liverpool, merchant and commission agent.—H. TRISTAM, Liverpool, broker.—R. DERYSHIRE, Liverpool, provision merchant.—H. BOWCOCK, Halmes, Lancashire, oil and floorcloth manufacturer.—T. MARSHALL, Hartlepool, Durham, boot and shoe maker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. CRUKHANK, Glasgow, auctioneer.—G. STEPHEN, Stornoway.

BIRTHS.

S K E T C H E S I N I N D I A .



THE JUMMA MUSJID, OR GREAT MOSQUE OF DELHI.

rivalled in the East. Seal-engraving, also, in Persian characters, both on silver and various gems, cornelians, and jaspers, had attained high perfection; and Bude-oo-deen, the engraver, is a great man, and has annually hundreds of commissions from all parts of India, more than he can fulfil. Miniature-painting on ivory is also much practised; and small portraits of the Delhi Sovereigns, with little views of its remarkable buildings, are executed by native artists, with a delicacy and minuteness of finish that could be alone attained by the untiring patience of a native.

The cashmere of the Punjab is also embroidered here, and scarfs and shawls of great beauty produced at a very much lower price than those of the finer work of Lahore. The Calcutta and Bombay ladies also admire exceedingly the scarves of black and white muslin, embroidered in gold and coloured silks, and which cost a mere nominal price, considering the beauty of the fabric, with the skill and labour

exhibited upon it. Wherever there is demand supply will follow, and as the Mohammedans delight in soft shawls, rich embroidery, gold, silver, and graven gems, so the arts of producing these requirements of luxury have attained their highest pitch in the bazaars of Delhi; and every person who is stationed there, and has the least repute for good nature, is sure to be embarrassed with commissions from every part of India, for scarves, and seals, brooches, and paintings, receiving in due time the expected *hoondie* for their payment; which order, on the nearest native banker, answers much the same purpose as our post-office order, and is about as troublesome.

Such is Delhi, a place of Oriental pomp, infinite luxury, and indescribable religious fanaticism. There is no difficulty, therefore, in supposing what the influences of such a place on native character would be, or the effect of it on the safety of the European society, unless defended by an overpowering force. The Mohammedan soldier

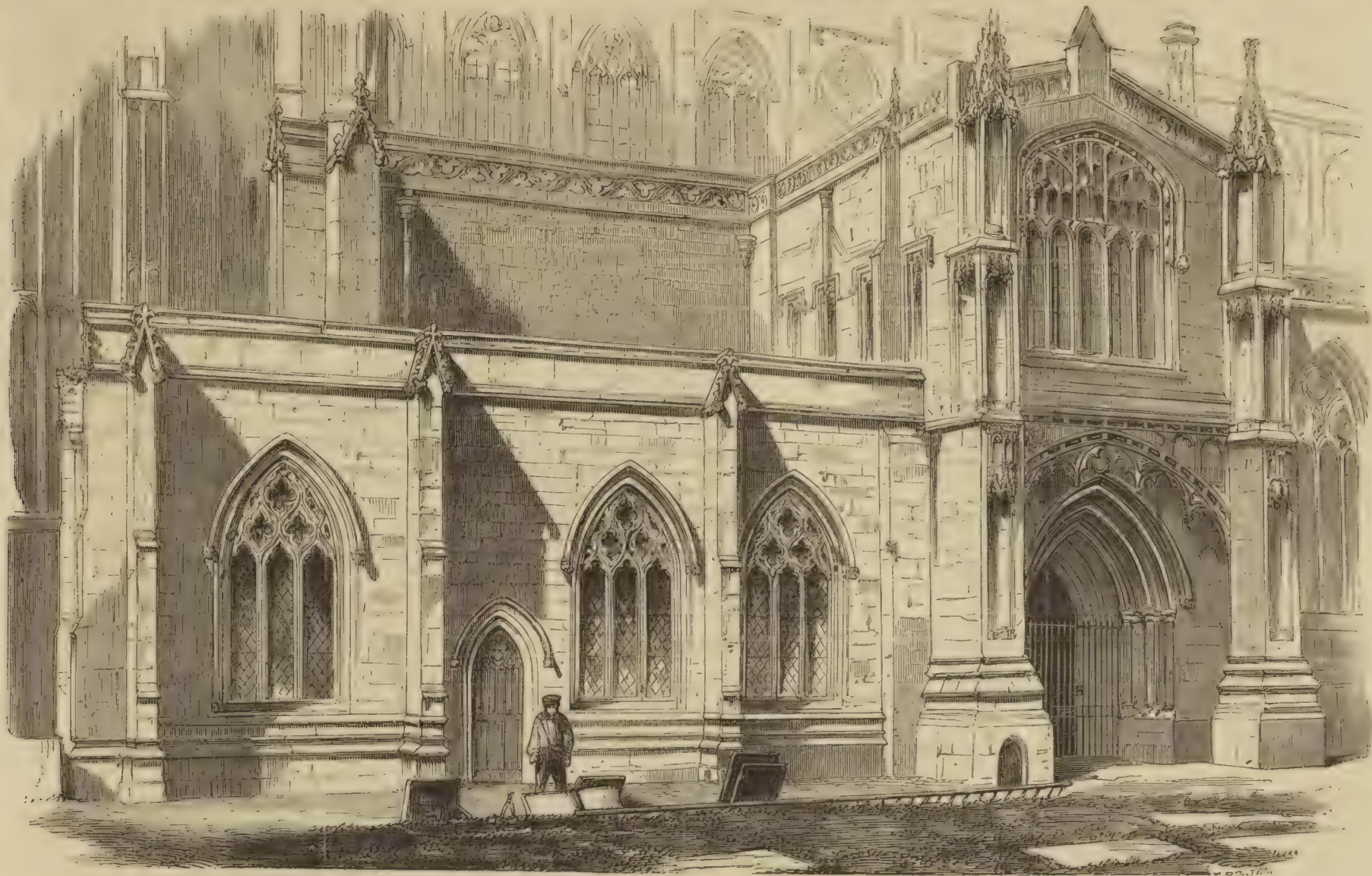
believes that he who dies by the sword in defence of his faith will be instantly translated to Paradise; and the majority of the Moslem sepoys in the British service claim the title of *synds*, or lineal descendants of the Prophet.

The present capital of the province of Delhi was built by Shah Jehan, whose Hall of Justice, erected of pure white marble and red freestone, forms the subject of one of our illustrations. The Cuttab Minar is also one of the finest monuments in the world, built of pure white marble, to commemorate the Mohammedan conquest of Delhi, in 1194.

Modern Delhi is some seven miles in circumference, but the chief beauties are to be found in the magnificent ruins of the ancient city, its palaces, minarets, mosques, baths, and fountains; and though the soil is sandy, and the country level, artificial irrigation renders it quite a paradise of luxuriant vegetation.



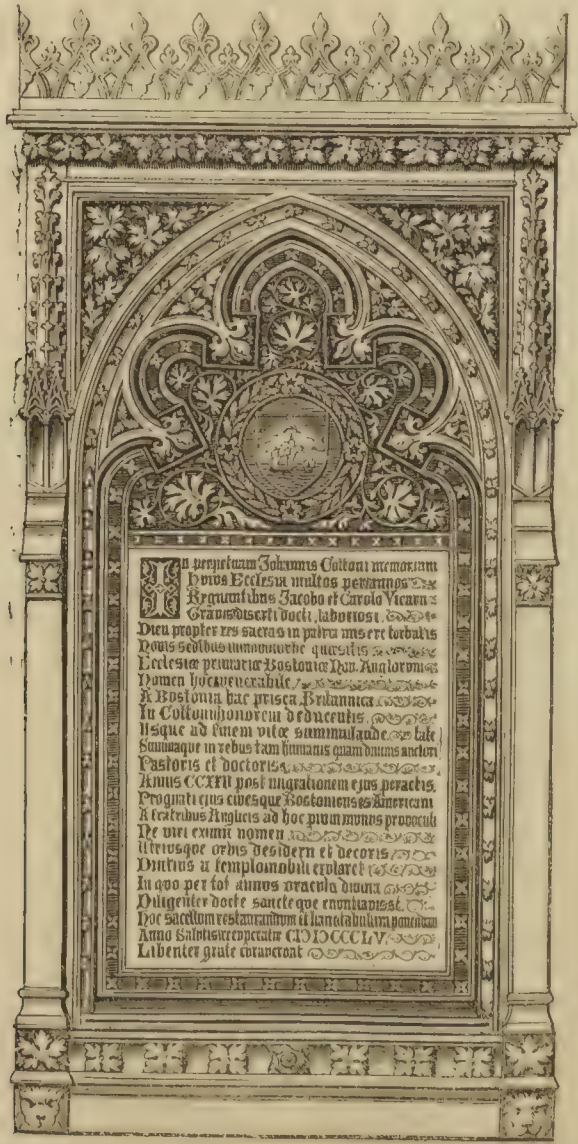
HOUSE RECENTLY BUILT NEAR THE LAHORE GATE OF DELHI.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.



THE SOUTH-WESTERN CHAPEL, BOSTON CHURCH, RESTORED.

RESTORATION AND REOPENING OF THE SOUTH-WESTERN CHAPEL OF BOSTON CHURCH.

WE have much pleasure in directing attention to a recent act of generosity on the part of some of our American neighbours, which, though not of course to be placed in the same category as the affair of the *Resolute*, is still by no means destitute of interest, as indicating their feelings towards the parent country. It will be in the recollection of our readers that the county of Lincoln, and particularly the ten districts bordering on the sea, were the homes of many of the



THE COTTON MEMORIAL TABLET.

"Pilgrim Fathers" before their secession to the other Continent; and that some of their leading men, especially Cotton, the founder of the State of Massachusetts, were connected with Boston, in East Lincolnshire, and afterwards gave its name to the new city which they built in the land of their adoption. In consequence of this connection, frequent acts of courtesy have on different occasions been reciprocated between the corporate bodies of the old Boston and the new, and citizens of the State of Massachusetts, as well as Americans generally, have been in the habit of visiting this home of their fathers, and especially its well-known beautiful church. But during the last year they have given a more palpable proof of regard by con-



INTERIOR OF THE SOUTH-WESTERN CHAPEL, BOSTON CHURCH, RESTORED.

tributing the noble sum of £670 towards the restoration of a portion of the sacred edifice, which had remained up to that time in a dilapidated condition, asking only in return that a part of this sum should be expended in a monumental tablet to Cotton, who, in addition to the fact of his having been their founder, was formerly a Vicar of the English Boston. This work is now nearly completed, and on Tuesday last the restored building was inaugurated; and at the same time was warmly testified the sense which the inhabitants feel of the munificence of their Transatlantic brethren.

The work of reparation was commenced in August, 1856. The chapel restored is about forty feet long by eighteen broad. It was in a wretched state of dilapidation: the tracery of its very beautiful windows was sadly mutilated, the floor irregular and broken up, and the roof in a very dangerous condition; the outer walls perished and decayed in great measure, and the inner ones disfigured with ages of whitewash, &c. The restoration has been ably executed under the direction of Mr. G. G. Scott, F.S.A. The outside walls have been repaired; the fine tracery of the three southern windows, evidencing a greater antiquity, we believe, than any other part of the church does, has been most carefully restored; the southern door reduced to its original and correct dimensions; the ornaments of the buttresses and finials in great measure replaced by new ones in perfect unison with the originals. The elegant window at the west end of the chapel was almost entirely destroyed, and its space filled up with bricks: it has been beautifully restored, and its fine perpendicular tracery made perfect. The roof is entirely new, and of the same pitch as the former one; and the whole exterior of the chapel has an appearance of complete repair.

In the interior the ceiling has been replaced by a new one of perpendicular paneled work, in exact imitation of the old one. The floor has been levelled, and paved with Minton's patent tiles. The walls have been relieved from their thickly-accumulated coats of whitewash, &c., and repaired where necessary; and the handsome arch and all the remainder of the east end bared of the incumbrances which disfigured that portion of the building. In doing this an ancient sedile has been discovered, which had been formerly very highly ornamented with tracery, pinnacles, &c.; this we hope to see restored. There is also a handsome ancient piscina near the south-eastern corner of the building. The eastern arch contains a beautiful brass tablet of large size, bearing an inscription from the classical pen of the Hon. Edward Everett, of Boston, Massachusetts; it is a specimen of elegant and pure Latinity (see the Engraving upon the preceding page). The brass plate and its inscription and ornaments are the excellent work of Messrs. Hardman, of Birmingham, and the sculptured foliage is highly artistic. The ten stone corbels, which sustain the principal timbers of the roof, have been faced with the armorial bearings of ten families of New England, who are either descendants of John Cotton, subscribers to the Cotton memorial, or the descendants of early settlers in or near Boston, in Massachusetts, who emigrated from old Boston and its immediate neighbourhood. The windows have been entirely new glazed with semi-transparent glass in the ancient lozenge style. We hope to see this, particularly in the western window, replaced with painted glass, as was the original intention had not the great dilapidations of the chapel rendered the application of the funds necessary to more pressing objects. The interior mouldings of the windows and doors, the corbel heads, &c., have been beautifully restored.

From whatever point of view this incident may be regarded, it is not, we think, destitute of interest and importance. As an act of dutiful filial courtesy from the inhabitants of a city in a distant land to the mother town from which their own took its name, and, above all, as the gift of citizens of a great nation to a people from whom they had formerly separated after a struggle for independence as long as it was hard, such an act as this is truly valuable, as affording a proof of that under-current of good feeling which, we believe, steadily flows in both peoples, whatever may be the aspect of the political horizon. While, viewed in a religious light, it is not the less important, as indicating most clearly this satisfactory truth, that, however widely they may many of them have departed from the faith and discipline of England's Church, there is still so much of love for the ancient paths that they can contribute most bountifully of their worldly substance for the beautifying of one of her noblest temples, associated though it be with a State of which they are no longer subjects, and identified with a creed to which many of them do not subscribe. Such a spirit and such conduct is in striking contrast with those of the Pilgrim Fathers, many of whom, as we know, when in a position of power, acted towards others as they had been acted to themselves. Persecuted in the first instance, they became persecutors in turn, refusing to others that very liberty of conscience which was their proposed motive in leaving their home; and we cannot but think that such interchange of courtesies as the one which we record between the two Bostons, while it is a compromise of patriotism and principle in neither, is an act which does honour to the good feeling of both.

REOPENING OF THE CHAPEL.

From an early hour on Tuesday morning signs of the approaching celebration were visible in the town. The meteor flag of England and the stars and stripes of the United States floated in peaceful combination from the topmost turret of "Old Boston Stump." The shipping in the port and various public and private buildings were gaily decorated with bunting, giving to the town a cheerful and animated aspect. Mr. Ingram, M.P. for the borough, and a large number of visitors, arrived by the half-past twelve train. The Bishop of London, the Bishop of Kentucky and Mrs. Smith, his Excellency the American Minister and his wife and daughter, and the Hon. J. P. Bigelow (late Mayor of Boston, Mass.), were amongst the distinguished visitors invited to take part in the interesting proceedings of the day.

In the afternoon the Lord Bishop of the Diocese preached in the noble parish church, taking his text from the 4th chapter of Ezra, part of the 2nd verse:—"Then they came to Zerubbabel, and to the chief of the fathers, and said unto them, Let us build with you, for we seek your God as ye do."

After the service the Bishop and clergy, accompanied by the American Minister and visitors, proceeded to the Cotton Chapel, where a small platform had been erected. The Vicar then read the following address:—

TO THE HON. G. M. DALLAS, MINISTER OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

May I please your Excellency,—We, the Mayor, clergy, and churchwardens of Boston, and the committee engaged in conducting the ceremonies of this day, desire to express to you, and through you to those fellow-citizens whom you represent, our deep appreciation of the munificent gift which has restored completely a portion of this edifice, "our holy and beautiful house," in which our common fathers worshipped God.

We receive, also, with much pleasure, within these ancient walls, the memorial of a former Vicar of this parish, who, in the providence of God, became one of the settlers of New England, and the founders of a city which bears our name; and we gratefully recognise in this generous compliment which has been paid to us by his descendants and countrymen, proof of that kindly affection which has long existed between the two Bostons, and a renewed pledge (as we believe) of that international friendship which our common parentage binds us to maintain.

It is a privilege to be permitted to witness a foundation laid, and perpetuated to generations yet unborn, and to see the American race, to which we owe our freedom, rise to that high and holy destiny which the God of nations seems to have appointed for them, and the maintenance of the peace and liberties of the world, is our ardent wish, and we will continue to be our earnest prayer.

Signed on behalf of the Committee. JOHN ELSAM, Mayor.
On behalf of the Clergy and Churchwardens. G. B. BLENKIN, Vicar.

The Hon. Mr. Dallas replied as follows: Mr. Mayor, Reverend Sir, and Gentlemen of the Committee.—The repair and inauguration of this beautiful chapel, as a memorial of the Rev. John Cotton, you have ascribed to the generous sympathies of a number of my countrymen. Hence it is that my presence as Minister of the United States is deemed appropriate, to represent, in some sort, the American contributors; to accept, on their behalf, the acknowledgments of the parishioners of St. Botolph; and to recognise the moral ties which bind in fraternal feeling the two Bostons—of Lincolnshire and Massachusetts. Agreeably to your authentic annals, this ancient borough, whose monastery was founded full 1200 years ago, furnished, soon after the Mayflower pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock, in 1620, more of her best citizens for Transatlantic colonisation than any other town in England; and in furnishing, as she did, in 1633, a man so eminent for his ability and attainments, and so resolute in his civil and religious opinions, as John Cotton, she gave a specially vigorous and wholesome impulse to the newly-started community, of which its present generation gratefully desire to perpetuate the memory. When John Cotton, dissenting from the discipline, not the doctrines, of his Church, withdrew from this Vicarage, which he had occupied for twenty-one years, and sought his favourite "Christian liberty" on a soil yet tenanted by savages, he was welcomed with open arms, and affectionately received by the pilgrim villagers of Ishmut, at the head of Massachusetts Bay. His descent from this magnificent pile was to the humble mud and straw inclosure of his meeting-shed. His fervid and fearless genius made of that little lecture-room a focus whence radiated the glowing beams of spiritual freedom. Indeed, the rapid growth of the whole region attests the power and purity of the seed first sown, and irresistibly proves the virtuous zeal and energy with which he and his associates worked at the foundation of an empire. I touch on this without going further, and only as explanatory why Ishmut relinquished its Indian name, preferring yours, and why the citizens of that now opulent and refined metropolis naturally press forward, as soon as permitted, with the munificent tributes of a just and honourable gratitude. Let me say, too, that such interchanges of respectful and kind remembrance are among the means upon which philanthropists and statesmen rely for removing or soothing the unavoidable asperities of national emulation in commerce, arts, and fame. My countrymen of Boston cannot be forgotten by those of the present generation at least who may frequent this sacred edifice. And, as they

have joined in rearing a durable monument to the guide and benefactor whom their forefathers received from here, may not this eloquent evidence of their sentiments, legible as it were upon the very walls, secure them a lasting reciprocity? I beg you, Mr. Mayor, and rev. gentlemen, to be assured that the citizens of the United States, whose attendance at this interesting ceremony you have hospitably invited, and whom it gives me equal pride and pleasure to see so numerous grouped around us, respond frankly and cordially to your impressive invocation to international friendship.

The American visitors were afterwards shown the autograph of John Cotton in the parish records, and several interesting documents connected with his relinquishment of the Vicarage of this town. At half-past five they adjourned to

THE BANQUET.

The spacious Exchange Hall, with its beautifully-arched roof, was gaily decorated with banners and flowers. On each side was a raised platform, on which the principal guests sat. The centre seat on the right of the hall was occupied by John Elsam, Esq., Mayor of the town, who presided.

On the right of the chair sat the Hon. G. M. Dallas, the American Minister; the Bishop of Lincoln, Mrs. Dallas; Mr. Wilson, M.P. for the south division of the county; Lady Crawford, Mr. F. Cooke, Mr. G. G. Scott, Mr. F. T. White, Mr. G. Warren, &c. On the left sat the Bishop of Kentucky, Mrs. Elsam; the Rev. G. B. Blenkin, Vicar; Miss Dallas, the Dean of Ripon, the Rev. Sir George Crawford, Mrs. F. Cooke, the Rev. Charles Duprie, &c.

At the chief table were seated several visitors from the United States. Mr. W. Garrit acted as vice-president on the occasion, and was supported on his right and left by Mr. Herbert Ingram, M.P.; Mr. Pishy Thompson, the historian of Boston; the Hon. J. P. Bigelow, ex-Mayor of New Boston, Massachusetts; Sir Harry Verney, Rev. J. H. Oldrid, Mr. J. W. Booth, &c.

The dinner was provided by Mr. T. Minton, of the Red Lion Inn. Messrs. Ransford, Genge, Holmes, and Miss Ransford, greatly added to the harmony of the evening, by introducing between the speeches a number of suitable glees, madrigals, &c.

The tables having been cleared, and grace sung by the choristers, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were duly honoured.

Pishy Thompson, Esq., author of the "History of Boston," in an eloquent speech, proposed "The President of the United States," with all the usual honours.

The toast was drunk with the most enthusiastic applause.

Mr. Dallas (the American Minister) returned thanks in an address of great force and humour, during which his Excellency remarked that there were many points of resemblance between England and America, and that their identity of character and pursuits was apt to give rise to disputes and collisions, which meetings of that kind were calculated greatly to soften, if not altogether to prevent.

Mr. Cooke proposed, in highly eulogistic terms, "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese" (Applause), and noticed that the reopening of St. Botolph's Church was the first official act of the present Bishop.

The Bishop of the Diocese thanked the meeting for this mark of their confidence, and said he believed the clergy were fully worthy of the confidence which the laity placed in them.

The Hon. G. P. Bigelow proposed the next toast, "Boston the mother." He said he was the descendant of a Lincolnshire man, who had left the comforts of Old England to seek in a distant wilderness the right to worship God as he chose. Had England in 1630 been governed as it was at the present time, he firmly believed that his forefather would never have left England. But great advantages had, by the blessing of God, sprung from this emigration. From his native town of Boston, New England, had sprung in the second generation Benjamin Franklin, the discoverer of the wonders of electricity; and two generations afterwards Boston had given birth to a man who had carried these wonders to practical benefit—he alluded to Professor Morse, the discoverer of the electric telegraph (Hear, Hear). Old Boston Stump was famous in former times in giving forth a light to travellers across the fens at night; but, when John Cotton left it, it gave forth a light which reached across the Atlantic, illuminating the moral and spiritual darkness of the new settlers in that far distant country—a light which continued to shine with undiminished effulgence to this day.

T. Garrit, Esq., responded on behalf of "Boston the mother;" and F. T. White, Esq., proposed "Boston the daughter."

The Bishop of Kentucky replied in a long and excellent address.

The Dean of Ripon proposed "The health of his Excellency the Minister of the United States."

The toast having been duly honoured, Mr. Dallas returned thanks, saying it would be a very bad return for their extraordinary kindness if he were to prolong the speaking of the night. It was necessary to be brief, and upon no subject was it better to be brief than upon oneself. As they had passed from the United States of America—from the President of the United States of America—from a Bishop of a distinguished State of the United States of America—down to his humble self, they had rendered it utterly impossible for him to make a heavier draught upon their patience by an additional address. "I thank you" (said his Excellency) "for the personal kindness you have exhibited towards my country and myself in the toasts which you have drunk, and for the many compliments you have paid in every step of this celebration to every member of my country that happens to be within your reach at this particular time. Those thanks are due to you, and which I cordially offer from the bottom of my heart."

The Rev. G. B. Blenkin, Vicar, proposed "The health of the Hon. Richard Everett and the subscribers to the Cotton memorial."

Mr. H. Parker responded.

Mr. W. Garrit (the Vice-Chairman) rose to propose a toast, "The health of our Representatives." On his left sat one of the representatives of the borough, who was the sole architect of his own fortunes. Mr. Herbert Ingram, one of the members for Boston, had raised himself to his present proud position by his own honourable industry. They had another representative in the House of Commons who was also the architect of his own fortunes. He had gained eminence in the profession which he adopted, and was the second honoured representative of his fellow-townsmen in Parliament. Those facts were quite enough to prove that the people of England looked to something else besides hereditary honours in their representatives. He called upon their American friends as well as fellow-townsmen to join with him in drinking the health of their representatives.

The toast having been drunk with all the honours.

Mr. Ingram, M.P., rose and said he was left there alone to return thanks for the members of the county as well as of the borough. From no man in the town could he consider the toast a greater compliment than from the vice-president, Mr. Garrit. He felt, in conjunction with his fellow-townsmen, the compliment that had been paid them by the visit of his Excellency the American Minister that day. They might now consider that they and their friends in America, though so widely separated, were in feeling as well as in origin but one family (Cheers). He had the honour of introducing their worthy Vicar to his Excellency in London. The meeting was one he should never forget. When he considered that 225 years had passed by since their former Vicar, John Cotton, had left the town for the purpose of founding a new colony in America, he could not but view such a meeting as a remarkable incident. In regard to the great object of their meeting, he claimed the right as the owner of the advowson of the church to name the chapel, now called the South-West Chapel, the Cotton Chapel; and henceforth he was quite sure that it would be known by no other name (Hear, Hear). After some further remarks the hon. member concluded by thanking the company for the honour that they had conferred upon him as well as his colleagues as representatives for the county and borough (Cheers).

The Rev. J. Oldrid proposed "The visitors who honoured the ceremony with their presence."

This was acknowledged by Thomas Webster, Esq., after which the meeting separated.

TESTIMONIAL.—A handsome silver tea and coffee service and salver (manufactured by R. G. Dodd, of Cornhill) have just been presented, by subscription, to Mr. Edwin Beedell, of the Examiners' Department, Custom House, London. The gift was presented at a dinner, at the Parthenon Club, by D. Colquhoun, Esq., as the representative of the general body of subscribers, who are located at various parts of the United Kingdom. Mr. Beedell is the author of the "British Tariff" and the "Mercantile and Maritime Guide," works highly appreciated by the mercantile and shipping community in every portion of the British dominions.

THE YELLOW FEVER GENERATED FROM COAL.—The Royal Mail Company have sent out instructions to St. Thomas to alter the coaling arrangements there, in order, as much as possible, to put a stop to the yellow fever on board the company's ships. The company's arrangements for coaling at St. Thomas are defective. At the Royal Mail coal-wharf on that island there are nearly 20,000 tons of coals stored. With the heat a deleterious gas escapes from the coals, which is frightfully injurious to health. Mail steamers come up to St. Thomas with a clean bill of health. In two or three days after coaling yellow fever almost invariably breaks out during the sickly months. The steamers which run to the Windward Islands and to Honduras, and which do not come up to St. Thomas to coal, hardly ever get the yellow fever on board. Her Majesty's ship *Orion*, with 700 souls on board, which is in the West Indies, and which has not coaled at St. Thomas, has not had a single case of yellow fever. That something conducive to yellow fever is generated from coal is proved from the fact that firemen and engineers who sleep nearest to the mass of coals on board the West India steamers are the greatest sufferers from the fever. The Royal Mail Company's coal-wharf is most injudiciously situated at the foot of a hill, which scarcely ever feels the sea breeze. The gas generated by the coals is hardly ever blown away, and the crews of the mail-packets are therefore inhaling it for the two or three days which each large packet takes to coal. The *Plata* coaled outside St. Thomas harbour, and the *Arato* coaled at the wharf, and the latter suffered far more from fever than the former. The crews of the mail-packets always say they are poisoned at St. Thomas coal-wharf.

COUNTRY NEWS.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual exhibition of this important society commenced on Tuesday in the ancient city of Salisbury. Though the exhibition, properly so called, only opened on Tuesday, the trial of implements had been proceeding since Friday. The trials with the reaping machines have been declared to be satisfactory; and the first prize was adjudged to Messrs. Burgess and Key, for Mr. McCormick's improved machine.

A large number of the visitors to the exhibition visited the home-farm of Mr. Sidney Herbert, M.P., at twelve o'clock, and were generally much pleased with the excellence of the arrangements and the improvements which have been introduced by the right honourable gentleman, by which it has been rendered the model farm of the county.

Several gentlemen also visited the water meadows of Messrs. Rawlence and Square, which, from their peculiarity of position, can, by bringing down the waters from the hills, be irrigated throughout the year, so as to preserve to them the freshest and most beautiful appearance, whilst the produce of other lands is to a considerable extent destroyed by the drought or washed away in the winter for want of proper canals in which to receive them.

The show of cattle, sheep, and horses was opened to the public on Wednesday, at 8 a.m., and proved more than usually attractive.

At one o'clock the Prince Consort arrived in Salisbury. His Royal Highness was met at the station by the Mayor and Corporation of Salisbury, and by the Bishop of the diocese, and proceeded at once to the show-yards, where he was received by Lord Portman and the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, who accompanied him through the exhibition. After the Prince had finished his inspection of the implements and live stock, he paid a visit to the Bishop at his palace, with whom he took luncheon, and then returned per railway to Southampton, and embarked in the *Fairy* for Osborne.

The dinner took place in the evening at the Council Chamber of the Townhall. Covers were laid for 200 persons.

The showyard was situated in the fields called the Butts, but we have only space to notice a few articles. On entering the ground we met all the well-known names of Burgess and Key, Clayton, Cottam and Cottam, Dray and Co., Gibbs and Co., Ransome and Sims, Tuxford and Sons, &c. The last-named firm had one of their beautiful portable steam-engines on the ground, and it excited very general attention. Engines on the same principle as that exhibited have already obtained prizes at the Royal Agricultural Society's Exhibition, North Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, Bath and West of England ditto, Adelaide (Australia) ditto, and at the great Austrian agricultural meeting at Vienna, so late as May last, sufficient to stamp any invention. An American platform beehive, invented by Mr. S. Davies, of Claremont, United States, was exhibited by Messrs. Burgess and Key. It consists of a series of hives; the bees can be transferred as often as necessary, and the honey removed without injuring the bees; they can be fed in the hive during winter and spring, and the filth removed without disturbing the bees.

Next week we shall report this important meeting more fully; and engrave some of the finest prize animals.

THE CITY OF OXFORD ELECTION terminated on Tuesday, after a sharp contest, in the return of Mr. Cardwell, by a majority of 67, the numbers being—For Mr. Cardwell, 1085; for Mr. Thackeray, 1018.

PARTRIDGE HATCHING EXTRAORDINARY.—Robert Northart, gamekeeper to Sir R. P. Glyn, of Fontmell Magna, Dorsetshire, having been supplied with a large quantity of partridges' eggs by the grass-mowers, and at the time having but one sitting hen, a Cochin China, placed seventy-four eggs under her, from which in a few days she produced fifty-six birds. Four eggs were destroyed; and the other fourteen being placed under another hen, the property of Mr. Haskell, in a few days brought forth fourteen more partridges, making in number seventy birds from seventy-four eggs.

THE KIDDERMINSTER ELECTION RIOTERS.—At the Worcester-shire Assizes, on Friday last, the grand jury returned true bills against twenty of the rioters at the Kidderminster election and the attack upon the Right Hon. R. Lowe. The charge, as reported in the calendar, was that of "unlawfully assembling with divers other persons, to the number of three or more, to disturb the public peace, and riotously making a great noise, riot, and disturbance at Kidderminster, on the 23rd March, 1857." The grand jury, however, ignored the bills presented against Mr. Alfred Talbot, gentleman, John Burnett, John Smith, and James Williams, for the riot at the close of the election, and against eight others for a riot and assault in the town. An application on the part of the defendants that the cases might all stand over till the next assizes was assented to.

RIOTS AT BELFAST, AND CONFLICTS WITH THE MILITARY.—Disturbances and faction fights occurred at Belfast for several nights after the partisan celebration of the 12th of July, resulting on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights last in a serious conflict with soldiers and constabulary. Thirty-one persons were charged at the police-office, on Monday, with rioting. Seven were committed for trial at the current assizes. These disgraceful tumults originated in the old enmity between the Orangemen and the Ribbonmen.

THE ceremony of electing a successor to the Roman Catholic see of Ross, in the room of the Right Rev. Dr. Keene, translated to Cloyne, took place on Thursday week, before Archbishop Leahy and a great number of his suffragan Bishops. At the close of the scrutiny the result was announced as follows:—Very Rev. Michael O'Hea, *dignissimus*; Dr. Keene, Bishop of Cloyne, *dignior*; Dr. Delaney, Bishop of Cork, *dignus*.

COLNEY-HATCH COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM.—The summer entertainment to the patients of this asylum was held on Tuesday. The patients were marshalled into the field about four o'clock, preceded by a very excellent band. Unfortunately, the weather was most unpropitious for the occasion, and patients and company alike sought shelter under "canvases," and this circumstance brought more immediately under notice the various cases of insanity. In one corner of the tent sat a young woman who sang with correct emphasis and pronunciation the ballad of "Red, White, and Blue." The men were engaged in climbing a pole, cricket, trap-ball, and other games; and they were cheered on by the warders or keepers, who preserved the greatest possible good humour. This holiday is looked forward to by the patients with intense anxiety, and the promise of being permitted to join the company keeps many a refractory spirit quiet for days previous. The grounds were very prettily decorated with tents and flags, and the band performed a great variety of airs, chiefly polkas, &c., for the gratification of the patients. About 400 tickets of admission were issued, and a liberal cold collation was supplied by the magistrates.

WHALE IN THE FRITH OF CLYDE.—On Monday morning, as the steamer *Rothsney Castle* was on her passage to Greenock, between eight and nine o'clock, a whale was observed disporting itself between Inellan and Dunoon, quite close to the shore, to the great amusement of the passengers on board.

ACCIDENT ON THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—The third-class train from Gloucester to Cheltenham, which had a large freight, was on Friday (yesterday) week running into Cheltenham station, when, owing to a pointsman's neglect, the train ran upon the up line of rails just as the express train for London was leaving Cheltenham. The consequence was a most severe collision. Both engines were severely damaged, and thrown off the line; but happily the carriages were not overturned; and, although a number of passengers were severely bruised and cut, no lives were lost.

A "HAIR-BREADTH" ESCAPE.—Recently, as the evening up train on the Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford Railway neared the St. Devereux station, a man was observed to be lying close to the rails. The train was stopped as quickly as possible, but not until the engine had passed the man, whose head was lying so near the rail that the engine, in passing, had cut off some of his hair. The man had fallen asleep in this dangerous position.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.—On Friday (last week) a hairdresser at Gloucester, named George Morley, in a fit of temporary insanity, drowned himself and his two daughters, one aged fourteen and the other nine, in the Gloucester and Berkeley Ship Canal. The bodies of the father and his youngest daughter were linked together—the father had his left arm passed round his daughter's waist, and grasped her wrist with his left hand, while his right arm was curved, as though he had held his elder daughter in the same manner as the younger.

EXECUTION OF MICHAEL CRAWLEY.—On Thursday Michael Crawley, convicted before Mr. Justice Williams, at the Central Criminal Court, on the 9th of the present month, for the wilful murder of his wife at Stratford, was hanged outside the Essex county gaol, at Springfield, near Chelmsford. Before his death he confessed his crime.

AN EXTRAORDINARY BATCH OF CONVICTS.—On Monday notice was given at Lloyd's that her Majesty's Government required a ship immediately to carry 400 male convicts from England to Fremantle, Western Australia. Perhaps a more remarkable set of convicts never left the country at one time than will go out in this ship. Amongst the 400 will be found Sir John Dean Paul and Co., the fraudulent bankers; Robson the Crystal Palace forger; Redpath, who committed the forgeries on the Great Northern Railway Company; and Agar, who was connected with the great gold robbery on the South-Eastern Railway. The notorious bank forger, Barrister Saward, alias Jem the Penman, the putter-up of all the great robberies in the metropolis for the last twenty years, also goes out in this ship, which will leave England on the 25th proximo, embarking the convicts at Deptford, then the Little Nore, Portsmouth, Portland, and Plymouth.

The officers of the 3rd Dragoon Guards on Tuesday dined together at a superb banquet at the London Tavern.

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PRESENTATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF LONDON TO PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM OF PRUSSIA, IN THE GUILDHALL: THE CHAMBERLAIN READING THE ADDRESS.
(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

PRESENTATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF LONDON TO PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM OF PRUSSIA.

THIS presentation has been well described as "one of those formal ceremonies which still maintain the prestige of our ancient Corporation, and make its nominal privileges as much a reward and distinction as the Cross of the Bath or the Legion of Honour." It took place, with the usual high state and ceremonial, on Saturday, the 11th inst., in the Guildhall of the City, the architectural meanness of which was in some degree concealed by the tasteful fittings which Mr. Bunning had designed for the occasion, and, with few exceptions, the effect was brilliant and striking. Flags of all nations were suspended from various parts of the hall; and in the centre of the eastern window was a large medallion of her Majesty, with golden lions for supporters, surrounded with wreaths and flags; and at the sides of the galleries were heraldic shields of the principal nations. In the centre of the western window was a fine trophy of flags, and the several compartments on each side of the hall were similarly decorated, with the addition of wreaths of flowers. At the end of the hall, immediately below the ladies' gallery, were the seats for the Lord Mayor, the Prince of Prussia, and the Duke of Cambridge. Below these on either side were the seats for the Aldermen and distinguished guests. The bobbies and passages leading from the hall to the Council Chamber were decorated with flags and wreaths.

The seats allotted to visitors and the various members of the Corporation were filled at least an hour before the time fixed for the ceremony; and the bright dresses of the ladies, mixed with uniforms and civic gowns of office, imparted a still more brilliant appearance to the old hall. The American Minister was the earliest visitor of distinction, but he was soon followed by the Ambassadors of all the principal foreign Courts. The Turkish Minister, accompanied by Madame Musurus, was loudly cheered, as were also the French Ambassador, the Sardinian Minister, the Prussian Minister, and the Countess Bernstorff. Among the other members of the corps diplomatique were the Greek Minister and Madame Tricoupi, the Belgian Minister and Madame Van de Weyer, the Netherlands Minister, the Saxony Minister, and the Austrian Minister and Countess Apponyi. The Duke and Duchess of Argyll, the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Earl of Clarendon, Earl Granville, the Earl of Harrowby, and Sir George Grey were also present, and nearly all in levee dress, wearing the ribbons and stars of the various orders to which they belonged. The Lord Mayor met with a most flattering reception as he walked up the hall, but the Duke of Cambridge was the most favoured in this respect. His appearance was welcomed with enthusiastic applause, which continued for some minutes, and was second only to that which greeted the arrival of the Prince of Prussia.

The Prince was received by the Lord Mayor in the Court of Aldermen, whence a procession of the personages was formed into the hall. His Royal Highness was received with continued cheers, clapping of hands, and waving of handkerchiefs from every part of the building. Prince Frederick took his seat on the right hand of the Lord Mayor—the Prussian Minister being seated next to him. The chairs on the left of his Lordship were occupied by the Duke of Cambridge and the French and Turkish Ministers. After the reading of the minutes of the previous Court of Common Council, Sir John Key, the Chamberlain of the City, rose, and in a clear voice, which was distinctly audible throughout the hall, read the address to the Prince.

The Chamberlain then advanced and presented the formal document of the freedom of the City, inclosed in the usual handsome box of solid gold.

His Royal Highness the Prince replied as follows, speaking in a powerful emphatic tone of voice that made every word distinct to the furthest spectators:—"I thank you very sincerely for the kind sentiments which you have uttered towards my Sovereign, my country, and myself. These feelings will be appreciated, I feel certain, by them no less than by me. It has given me the greatest satisfaction to receive from the hands of the municipal authorities of this ancient city an honour which I must ever highly prize; and I acknowledge in the distinction so conferred upon me an additional token of the kindly feelings evinced towards me by the British people. I trust that the confidence which they are willing to repose in me will not be unmerited, and that the future happiness of the Princess—my affianced bride—may prove equal to my endeavours to secure it, and to the devoted and hearty attachment which I bear to the Queen, your Sovereign (Applause). Allow me once more to thank you with all my heart for the cordiality of your welcome, and to assure you of my most fervent wishes for the welfare and the prosperity of the city of London" (Continued cheering).

At the conclusion of the reply, it was proposed by Mr. Alderman Copeland, and seconded by Mr. J. Vallance, that the proceedings of the Court, with the Prince's gracious answer, be entered upon the minutes, which was carried *nem. con.*

The Prince then, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, retired, amid the same hearty acclamations which had greeted his arrival, and proceeded to the Mansion House, where a collation was provided.

The illustration was sketched by our Artist while the Chamberlain, Sir John Key, was reading the address.

THE ROYAL VICTORIA PATRIOTIC ASYLUM.

ON Saturday week her Majesty laid the foundation-stone of a new asylum, bearing her illustrious name, and destined for the reception of 300 orphan daughters of soldiers, sailors, and marines. The cost of the erection and endowment of the asylum will be defrayed out of the surplus funds remaining in the hands of the Commissioners of the Patriotic Fund. The Patriotic Fund was commenced at the desire of her Majesty, in the year 1851, and the total amount received by the Commissioners from all sources has amounted to £1,446,985; and, after providing on a liberal scale towards the maintenance and relief of all the widows and orphans of soldiers, and of those officers whose cases presented such special features as to induce the Commissioners to employ a portion of the funds so generously provided, there still remains a sufficient surplus to admit of the allocation of £38,000 for the erection of the building, and of £110,000 to provide an endowment for this institution, intended for the "perpetual consolation and encouragement of those who hereafter may die for their country." The site which the building is to occupy is a very pleasant one, on Wandsworth-common, a short distance from the Clapham station of the South-Western Railway.

Around the spot upon which the foundation-stone was to be placed was erected a platform, covered with scarlet cloth, for the accommodation of her Majesty and the distinguished personages who were to assist her in the ceremony; a canopy being also erected to protect them from the sun. On one side of this a spacious amphitheatre, capable of accommodating 1200 or 1300 persons, had been erected, to which visitors were admitted by numbered tickets; whilst on the opposite side of the ground a large space had been railed off, to which admission was also given by ticket. The Royal Commissioners and members of the Executive and Finance Committee, in levee dress, were in waiting at the right and left of the Royal pavilion. Among those present were Sir G. Grey, Mr. S. Herbert, Lord Redesdale, the Duke of Newcastle, Lord St. Leonards, Sir J. Pakington, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Winchester, Colonel Wilson Patten, M.P., the Earl of Hardwicke, the Lord Mayor, Sir Henry Rose, and others. Her Majesty, with the Court, arrived in four carriages, with an escort of the 11th Hussars: the Royal party consisting of her Majesty, the Prince Consort, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, the Princess Charlotte of Belgium, the Prince of Prussia, the Prussian Minister, with the Duke of Wellington, the Marquis of Abercorn, Earl Spencer, and other members of her Majesty's household. On leaving the pavilion a procession was formed, and proceeded to the platform where the stone was to be laid.

One hundred orphan boys (fifty from the Duke of York's School and an equal number from the Greenwich School) and one hundred girls (fifty from the Sailors' Orphan Girls' School and the same number from the Soldiers' Infant Home) formed a line in front of the covered platform, the military bands playing the National Anthem.

On the arrival of the Queen at the spot where the stone was to be laid, the Prince Consort, as President of the Commission, read an address to her Majesty, detailing the origin and object of the institution, and thanking her Majesty for honouring by her presence and patronage the foundation of the building.

The reply of her Majesty was as follows:—

I thank you sincerely for your loyal and affectionate address. I gladly avail myself of this occasion to express the great satisfaction I have derived from the gratifying evidence presented to me of the manner in which my faithful subjects throughout the whole extent of my dominions, and in the most distant parts of the world, have evinced their genuine sympathy with my own feelings of admiration for the gallant

conduct and enduring fortitude of my naval and military forces, by their munificent contributions to the funds for the relief of the widows and orphans of the brave men who have fallen in the discharge of their duty to their Sovereign and their country. You have fully justified the confidence placed in you by your judicious and impartial distribution of these funds; and I entirely approve of the appropriation of a portion of them to the erection and permanent endowment of an institution in the success of which I shall ever feel the warmest interest.

I am most happy to take a part in the foundation of this institution, and I heartily concur with you in committing it to the Divine care and protection, and in praying that the benevolent objects with which it has been designed may be to the fullest extent accomplished.

The Archbishop of Canterbury having offered up a prayer, a glass tube, containing specimens of the current coin of the realm, was deposited in an aperture in the lower stone by her Majesty, together with a splendidly-engrossed vellum, on which was an appropriate inscription.

The bed for the stone having been duly prepared, her Majesty was handed the silver trowel, with which she gave the finishing touch to the mortar, and the upper stone was gradually lowered on to its final resting-place. Her Majesty having applied the plumb-line and level to the masonry, and given it several raps with the delicately-polished mallet, declared the foundation of the new building to be laid. On a brass plate let into the front of the stone is an inscription recording the purpose of the asylum, and the date of its dedication by her Majesty Queen Victoria.

The trowel, according to custom adopted on these ceremonies, was the perquisite of the illustrious mason who laid the stone; and her Majesty, on leaving, most good humouredly claimed her privilege in this respect, and took the trowel with her. The handle is composed of a figure of Britannia, as a guardian spirit, shielding those children representing the three different countries of the United Kingdom, and is ornamented with warlike trophies, and the rose, shamrock, and thistle. The implement is engraved at page 85.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the illustrious visitors returned to the pavilion; and, after a short delay, the Queen and Royal party left the ground, amid the cheers of the people and the firing of the artillery.

Two inscriptions are to be placed in front of the building—one in Latin, the other in English—as follows:—

For the Orphan Daughters of the Soldiers, Seamen, and Marines of the Realm, now and henceforth, England, her Colonies, and Indian Empire, aided by many not subjects of the Crown, erect this Asylum, from a part of the Patriotic Fund, formed in 1851-5, at the desire of Queen Victoria.

The building, of which we engrave a view, is to be erected after the design of the well-known Heriot's Hospital at Edinburgh, omitting some of the ornamental details, to carry out which it was found would absorb too large an amount of the surplus at the disposal of the Commissioners.

THE SHEEPSHANKS COLLECTION.

WE have already announced that the collection of paintings formed by John Sheepshanks, Esq.,—and presented to the nation, with almost unprecedented munificence—during the life of that gentleman, and which is known as the "Sheepshanks Collection"—and ever will be, notwithstanding the modest wish of the donor to the contrary—is now exhibited to the public, in admirably-lighted rooms, at the new Museum of Science and Art, South Kensington. The collection is not only numerically rich, but its value has been greatly enhanced by the well-known taste and knowledge of Mr. Sheepshanks. Very nearly the whole of the 231 pictures are choice specimens of the most eminent artists, and are therefore representative of the British school during the present century, as far as is possible with works of cabinet proportions. The collection is, indeed, peculiarly English, and, as is justly remarked in the catalogue, tends to strengthen our characteristic "home-feeling." For here is no hard-headed German allegory, or French polish and superficial refinement, or dark Italian episode of crime and passion. We shall limit our notice to a few summary remarks, as many of the pictures are already known by engravings and otherwise; and our readers will examine them again and again for themselves.

Mr. Mulready—for whom we should claim pre-eminence among living painters, were it only for variety, conscientiousness, and miniature-like finish, but who is as remarkable for higher qualities as for technical perfection—is here better represented than in any collection in England. "The Fight Interrupted" realises the scene with wonderful felicity in all its varied detail. We agree with Dr. Waagen that the heads have great individuality, and that the expression is admirable; but we do not admit that the flesh tones are too red, "especially the chest of the spiteful little fellow whose ear is being pulled." The artist intended a bruise or abrasion of the skin, and of course both boys are reddened by the fierce exertion, and the hugging and punishment of the fight. "The Seven Ages of Man" has little of the tone for which the last picture is remarkable, yet the details of this fine work are given with most careful intelligence, and many passages of the colouring are peculiarly sweet. The sequential description of the poet is set aside; but the contrasts thus afforded are, we think, too confused to supply its absence. "The Sonnet" has splendid intensity of glazed colour. "First Love" is, perhaps, unnecessarily painful in sentiment, and its amber glow is scarcely true to natural effect; yet we must admire its masterly breadth. "Choosing the Wedding Gown" has been engraved and described in this Journal; but, painted as it was nearly thirty years after "The Fight Interrupted," it affords in its differences of manipulation an interesting subject for comparative study. Other most admirable works by Mulready are, "The Butt—Shooting a Cherry," "Giving a Bite," "Interior, with Portrait of Mr. Sheepshanks," "Open your Mouth and Shut your Eyes," "A Sailing Match," "Pinching the Ear" (the original of "The Young Brother," now in the Royal Academy, painted in pursuance of the will for the Vernon Gallery), and some landscapes, chiefly remarkable for depth of tone, excepting a "View in Blackheath Park," which is painted with more than pre-Raphaelite minuteness.

Mr. Leslie is almost equally well represented, and justly so, for, though inferior to Mr. Mulready in the more material and tangible qualities of art, he is as wide, and perhaps more manly, in his sympathies; he has a refined sense of beauty, and an inexhaustible vein of genial humour. The "Principal Characters in 'The Merry Wives of Windsor'" represents the entertainment given in Page's house, for which the characters assemble in the first scene of the first act of the play. Page is banteringly endeavouring to persuade Slender to drink, which he sheepishly declines. Falstaff is evidently paying compliments to the "merry wives," which the jealous Ford overhears. Anne Page sits modestly alone; Justice Shallow and the Welsh parson are at the end of the table, and the remaining personages are as easily recognisable. This is the largest picture by Mr. Leslie; but perhaps the most perfect painting for tone and elaboration, as well as dramatic force, is the "Scene from the Taming of the Shrew"—well known from Finden's engraving. The vociferating "Autolycus" is a capital mixture of mountebank and pedlar. His wares—the true-love knots, necklaces, trinkets, and looking-glass—the last not the least attractive to female customers—are well chosen. "Florizel and Perdita" is a very sweet picture from the same play, "The Winter's Tale." The sombre hues in "Queen Katharine and Patience" are nicely suited to the sorrowful pensive expression of the Queen's face. The illustrations of the French Shakespeare, Molière, are equally happy. In "Trissotin reading his Sonnet," the important airs of the "bel-esprit," the affected admiration of the three "femmes savantes," and the indifference of the pretty Henriette, are perfectly expressed. Old French taste and literature are also cleverly suggested in the red hangings, the wax-lights, and the looking-glass reflecting the *bibliothèque*. The scene from "Le Malade Imaginaire," in which the indignant *médecin* is devoting his terrified patient to all the "ills that flesh is heir to," whilst the doctor-despising brother and the vivacious maid stand by, the one sneering, the other laughing, is excellently given; and almost equally so the scene from "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme," in which the maid "hits" M. Jourdain, against all his newly-acquired ideas of the rules of *escrime*, by thrusting "en tierce avant que de pousser en carte," and not having the patience to wait for his parry. The quaint, mocking figure of Madame Jourdain is very droll; but this picture is too sketchy, as well as some others by Mr. Leslie. "Who can this be?" and its pendant, "Who can this be from?" are very humorous. The replica of "My Uncle Toby and Widow Wadman" is scarcely so exquisite as the picture in the Vernon Collection. The head of "Sancho Panza" is as full of character as several female heads are refined in beauty and expression.

The works of Sir Edwin Landseer are next in number and importance, and are nearly all well known by engravings—as for instance the touchingly-pathetic picture, "The Old Shepherd's Chief Mourner;" the "Jack in Office," so extraordinary for the variety of almost human expression in the dogs' heads and attitudes; "The Drover's Departure," so masterly in keeping and rich in detail, though of interest hardly proportioned to its size; and "The Naughty Boy." The last picture originated from the accident of a boy having been "put in the corner" as a punishment for obstinately refusing to sit to Sir Edwin for his portrait. "The Two Dogs" was the first picture Mr. Sheepshanks ever purchased. "Suspense" is a striking representation of a hound watching anxiously at a closed door for the return of his master in a room where bloody footmarks on the floor, a dragged plume, and stained gauntlets show that murder or conflict has taken place. The bare mention of other works will suffice, as the mischievously-disposed and jealous "Tethered Rams," the "Comical Dogs," "No Place Like Home"—a terrier with a tub for a kennel (an idea repeated elsewhere, in "Diogenes and Alexander"); "Highland Breakfast," "The Dog and Shadow," and "Roebuck and Rough Hounds." There are several pictures by Mr. Redgrave, full of meaning and allusion, and as pure in feeling as choice in execution. Of these, "Ophelia" is altogether exquisite, and the most perfect realisation of that sweetest and most pathetically-conceived character we have seen. "The Governess" is extremely affecting. This picture, however, and "Gulliver Exhibited to the Brobdignag Farmer," are familiar to the public by engravings. "Cinderella" and "Preparing to Throw Off her Weeds" (with the screen before the late husband's portrait) are equally admirable. "Bolton Abbey" is a small specimen of the artist's thoroughly English style of landscape-painting.

Among other fine works by Mr. Cope, we would mention as especially noteworthy, "Palpitation," "L'Allegro," and its companion, "Il Penseroso."

"Cowes, with the Royal Yacht Squadron," is an excellent specimen of Turner—all a-glow with evening light. There are other works by the master, but, from the want of harmony between some of the colours hastily applied on "vanishing days" at the Academy and the rest of the painting, they have, for the most part, for this reason, already needed cleaning, and are away for that purpose.

The engraved picture, "The Refusal, from Burns' song of 'Duncan Gray,'" by Wilkie, is also undergoing some such operation, rendered necessary, we believe, from another reason—the cracking of the bituminous foundation of the work, which is fast destroying so many of Wilkie's early and best pictures.

The "Scene from 'The Good-natured Man'—Honeywood introducing the Bailiffs to Miss Richland as his Friends," by Mr. Frith, is one of the most charming pictures in the collection.

Some five or six works by Mr. Webster are full of his excellent qualities; and, with the exception of the admirable "Village Choir," show his characteristic love, in common with Mulready, for children and their ways.

There are two fresh breezy scenes by Mr. Stanfield, and another—"Near Cologne, on the Rhine"—has more than usual depth of tone. Three excellent pictures by Mr. Roberts show much greater finish than recent works; two admirable landscapes by Mr. Creswick are likewise most carefully painted; and there are two poetical works by Mr. F. Danby. "Italian Peasant Woman Bitten by a Snake" is an example of Sir Charles Eastlake's delicate, almost effeminate, colouring. Three pictures by Mr. Horsley are very charming in subject. The "Temptation of Andrew Marvel," and "Sterne's Maria," from the "Sentimental Journey," are excellent specimens of Charles Landseer. Messrs. E. W. Cooke, Uwins, Lee, Lance, and the promising young artist, Mr. G. Smith, are well represented.

Finally, among works by deceased artists there is a delicious little bit of flesh painting by Etty; the scene from "Paul Pry," by G. Clint, with the celebrated portrait of Liston, &c.; and a portrait by Jackson. The characteristics of both Stothard and Calcott may be studied in several works; and by Constable there is a fine view of "Salisbury Cathedral," and "Boat-building, near Flatford Mill," has great power and effectiveness. Lastly, the favourite artist, Collins, may be seen in pictures produced at long intervals in his career—of these "Rustic Civilty" and "The Stray Kitten" are especially pleasing and naive.

One of the four rooms containing the collection is devoted to water-colour, chalk, and other drawings, and etchings by the most celebrated artists. For purposes of study these works are especially valuable and instructive, containing as they do the first thoughts and studies for some of the finished pictures. Among these there are fine studies of heads and hands, by Wilkie, Mr. Cope, and others; water-colour drawings by Turner and Holland; and some very early drawings by Sir E. Landseer—one executed when he was only five years old, and another "When Master Landseer was first breeched." But by far the most extraordinary drawing is a female life study, by Mr. Mulready, executed in black, red, and white chalk.

THE splendid building projected for musical purposes, under the name of St. James's Hall, is now in a state of rapid progress. The works are directed by Mr. Owen Jones, the architect of the edifice, which, it is confidently anticipated, will be completely ready before the commencement of next season. It will be a few feet longer than the Surrey Music-hall, but somewhat less wide, with a gallery on each side and two opposite the orchestra; and will amply accommodate from fifteen hundred to two thousand persons. Some time ago we gave a plan and a detailed description of this great Music-hall, which will be a distinguished ornament of the metropolis.

RUSSIAN PLANS OF SEBASTOPOL.—Notwithstanding the multitude of illustrations that have appeared of Sebastopol, we have felt both instructed and interested by a visit to Mr. Hogarth's Saloon, in the Haymarket, where we were shown facsimiles of the Russian maps of the seat of war and a panoramic view of the Bay of Sebastopol. How precious these would have been in the hands of our engineers before the war! They were, in fact, completed for the Russian Government only on the eve of the memorable siege. The general map of the "Seat of the War" shows that part of the Crimea from the line of the Belbe round by the promontories of Sebastopol to the north-east of Balaclava; and, in order to make it intelligible, numbers have been superadded at each point of interest. Here we see the sandbag battery of Inkerman, which was the scene of the thickest of the fight; the Inkerman Lighthouses, the shafts of which, when brought into one, as seen from the sea, point out the course for entry into the harbour of Sebastopol. Not the least interesting line on the map is the road by which the Russians brought water from the Belbeo to Sebastopol daily, by the aid of 26,000 arabas or waggons, each drawn by two bullocks. This was after the aqueduct that supplied Sebastopol with water was broken down. The other map, the "Russian Military Plan of Sebastopol," is a facsimile of the working plan of the Russians up to the morning of the surrender, and is curious, as showing, clearly coloured, the Russian conception of the vast scheme of offensive approaches of the Allied Armies up to the walls. The "Plan of Balaclava" is a reduction of the British Government plan made by the Commissariat Army Works Corps. It embraces all the streets, and even the easterly large hut inhabited by Miss Nightingale. Altogether, we are of opinion that the first thing to be done by the future historian of the campaign of Sebastopol is to get hold of these plans, which illustrate admirably the gigantic struggle of which the Crimea was lately the locality.

DEATH OF A LARGE MAN.—The *Jackson Whig* (U.S.) of the 19th ult. chronicles the death, in Henderson County, in the State of Tennessee, of Mr. Miles Darden. The *Whig* says the deceased was, beyond all question, the largest man in the world. His height was 7ft. 6in.—two inches higher than Porter, the celebrated Kentucky giant. His weight was a fraction over 1000lb. He measured round the waist 6 feet 9 inches.

SWISS RAILWAYS.—Railways are extending rapidly in Switzerland. The following sections have been opened within the last three months:—On April 15 that from Winterthur to Schanhausen, 29 kilom. (18½ miles) in length; in the course of the same month that from Schanhausen to Laufenlingen, 9 kilom. (5½ miles); on May 16 that from Herzogenbuchsee to Biel, 37 kilom. (23 miles); on June 10 from Villeneuve to Bex, 17 kilom. (10½ miles); and on June 15 the section from Herzogenbuchsee to the plain of Wyller, near Berne, 39 kilom. (25 miles).

A convention has been signed between the Emperor, of the French and the King of Holland, authorising the Eastern of France Railway Company to continue the Metz and Thionville line to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, to meet a branch of the Luxembourg Railway.



DESIGN FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES: THE FOREIGN DEPARTMENT (COE AND HOPLAND, ARCHITECTS). PREMIUM, £800.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

WE this week engrave the first Prize Design for the Foreign-Office, the designers being Messrs. Coe and Holland, and the premium awarded £800. Our View shows the principal front (the official residence), to face St. James's Park. The design is to comprise a public office and an official residence for the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and, in the architectural features of the building, the architects have endeavoured to give an appearance of individuality to the two main divisions—viz., the offices and the residence. They have grouped the whole in one mass, perfectly harmonious, relying upon an extra story in height, and more enrichment in the facade, to show distinctly which is the residence. The other fronts, though less important, have a commanding appearance, also showing the purpose for which the building is intended. The style chosen is pure Italian, enriched by ornament and sculpture, with an ornamental tower at the angle; and mansard-roofs capped with ornamented iron work, which helps to give lightness to its appearance and height to the building. The official residence is placed next the park, the principal entrance being therefrom under a grand portico. The ground floor of this compartment comprises a state dining room, with apartments adjoining for occasional supper and tea-rooms, library, morning-room, grand staircase, &c. On the first floor the whole length of the front will contain five reception-rooms *en suite*, to accommodate 1500 visitors, entered from a grand corridor or gallery 240 feet by 20 feet. The upper part and basement will be devoted to the ordinary requirements of a nobleman's town house.

The official division contains offices for the Secretary and Under-Secretaries of State, Consular department, Passports, Slave Trade and Treaty department, Telegraph, and numerous other offices; besides two libraries—one on the ground floor and one on the second floor, each one 120 feet by 30 feet. The whole of the building will be fire-proof; the rooms lofty and well lighted, and the corridors wide; the internal decorations being of a most beautiful and chaste character consonant with the whole design.

The plan of the building is nearly a square, with a large central hall for music or occasional supper room, dividing the interior space into two large quadrangles.

It will be recollected that her Majesty's Government have determined to erect forthwith, as part of their scheme for the concentration of the principal Government Office, two designs, one for the Foreign Office, and the other for the War Office; and, as Messrs. Coe and Holland have obtained the first premium, there is reason to believe that their design will be erected; and, in our opinion, it is worthy of this distinction.

We are anxious to correct an error in our Journal of July 11. The author of the Prize Block Plan for the War Office and Foreign Office is not M. Cressinet, as there stated, but M. Crepinet.

We are requested to state, also, that the drawings which, in the award, are called "St. Messrs. Buxton and Habershon's," are described in the envelope accompanying the drawings as follows:—"The elevations designed by Charles Buxton, Esq., M.P.; and drawn, and the plans and sections designed and drawn, by Messrs. Wm. G. and E. Habershon, 38, Bloomsbury-square."

OLD ENGLISH MUSIC.*

THE present number commences a new volume of Mr. Chappell's remarkably interesting researches, and brings us to that very critical period for musical art in England—the time of the Commonwealth. The assiduous antiquary makes this an opportunity for bringing to light many entirely new and very striking illustrations of the social peculiarities of this important epoch of our country's history.

The decadence of our cathedral choral service is proved to be due, not to the Puritans—for its celebration was restored after the temporary suspension by the Roundhead party precisely as it had been carried on before they came into authority—but to the Deans and Chapters, who, taking advantage of a clumsily-framed Act of Parliament of the reign of Elizabeth, which was designed for the improvement of the musical department of the ecclesiastical establishment and its condition (though vesting the power of amelioration in wrong hands), began, from the time of James I., to appropriate to themselves and to their own uses the funds, the houses, and other property that were intended to have been applied to the benefit and for the support of the choirs. Hence one of the sources of the monstrous anomalies in the distribution of Church property, of which all sensible people who are sincerely interested in the welfare of the establishment complain. The subject is too important to be dismissed in a cursory paragraph; but, although this is not the place for its ample discussion, we may take the opportunity to draw attention to a work in which many valuable facts and particulars with regard to it may be found.

In discussing the customs connected with dancing, the indefatigable historian shows that the Puritanical influence has been more permanent than against music, in uprooting a custom that, until the period of their sway, was universal throughout England, and was by strangers (from Erasmus downwards) esteemed and approved as one of the most charming national peculiarities—viz., that of every gentleman kissing whatever lady he should encounter in society, not only after dancing, but as an ordinary courtesy on entering the room, or on leaving it. He shows that Oliver Cromwell had a marked fondness for the "joyous science," by citing occasions of his presence at private music parties, and his perfect pleasure in the performances he witnessed; also, that Charles I. was a composer (a fact not hitherto mentioned), and that one of his compositions, a three-part song to words by Carew, is now in the library of the British Museum. These, with many curious particulars about the songs for and against Archbishop Laud and others, are contained in the present part; also, the particulars of the first publication, during the Puritan period, of "The Dancing Master," a collection in which a very large number of our native ballad tunes have been preserved.

Our present concern is rather with the musical than with the historical portion of Mr. Chappell's admirable work, to which, therefore, we will at once turn our consideration. There are, of course, no tunes of the Puritans; and let us thank destiny for the same; for, had the dismal dulour and the brotherly bitterness of their prevailing sentiments sought expression in music, it would either have been in lugubrious dullness, or in a vulgar corruption of the popular melodies at least equal to that of the north-country Ranters of later days. First, then, "When the King enjoys his own again," which is invested with an association more interesting to a hearer in our own times than even its reference to the politics and history of that time, by being made the constant allusion and ceaseless delight of Sir Walter Scott's admirably-drawn Loyalist character of Wildrake, in his novel of "Woodstock," of which favourite tale this excellent tune is, therefore, an important illustration. Then we have "Hey, boys, up go we," an air of a different but equally-marked character; the truly lovely melody of "Love lies bleeding;" the energetic "Prince Rupert's March;" and the broad, emphatic air of "Vive le Roy," which, from the days of Charles I., through those of the Commonwealth and the Restoration (and probably until finally supplanted by our much more modern "God Save the King"), was the song sung on any such occasions as those on which nowadays the National Anthem would be performed.

In this part, also, we have a full account of Robin Hood, the hero both of reality and romance, the knight-errant of the greenwood, and successor of the Launcelots, Gawaines, Tristrams, and other coeval worthies of the Round Table, in the ballads that replaced the ancient

lays of the minstrels—Robin Hood, the popular representative of the chivalry of the people. Innumerable as are the songs that chronicled his exploits, there is a remarkable paucity of tunes to them, and almost as great poverty of merit in the few that are to be found. One of the best is that to the story of "Robin Hood and the Bishop of Hereford," and in this instance the tale is worthy of the tune. To make up for this scarcity the editor gives us "Lady Frances Neville's Delight"—a dance of the period, and one of the very best in the entire collection, to which Mr. Oxenford has written some excellent verses extolling the virtues of the merry man of Sherwood, which are true to the character of the glorious tune. It is worthy of remark that this singularly fine melody is nearly a counterpart of poor Edward Loder's very popular song of "The Brave Old Oak," to which we allude because, as there is no manner of likelihood that our contemporary talented and suffering composer can have heard this "Delight," his own song exemplifies his ability to identify his thoughts with the national character he there purposed to embody. We watch with increasing interest the completion of this truly national work.

LITERATURE.

WONDERFUL ADVENTURES OF MRS. SEACOLE IN MANY LANDS.
Edited by W. J. S. Blackwood, Paternoster-row.

This little book, which probably ends the literature of the war, comes before the public dedicated to one of the most popular officers in the British army, and introduced by a preface from the pen of its historian, Mr. W. H. Russell. It professes to tell the story of a simple yet adventurous life, passed in scenes and among people where few women would or should have the hardihood to venture. Strange, and in some instances startling, as have been the events of Mrs. Seacole's busy useful life, they are quietly and simply described; indeed, as Mr. Russell says, "she is no Anna Commana, who presents us with a verbose history, but a plain, truth-speaking woman, who has lived an adventurous life amid scenes which have never yet found a historian among the actors on the stage where they passed."

For an account of Mrs. Seacole's birth and early life we refer our readers to the book itself: it is sufficient to say that she is a creole, of Scotch extraction. Born in Jamaica, she seems early to have acquired a love of adventure and a keen desire to travel, and soon made herself favourably known in many parts of the world. We trace her at length to the Isthmus of Panama, where she seems to have spent some time. Several chapters are devoted to an account of life there, and much that is strange and novel is amusingly told. Side by side with the horrors of lawlessness and disease are some laughable pictures of the "picnic" life led on the great high road to California.

But Mrs. Seacole is a creole doctress, skilled in the qualities of herbs, &c., and familiar with diseases, the very names of which sound terrible in our ears. And in addition to her skill she has (we learn this from other sources than this book) a warm heart and courageous disposition,—qualities mostly found together, and wherever her adventurous life has carried her she seems to have turned these qualities to good account. Of her nerve the reader may judge by the following extract. The locale of the scene described is a muleteer's hut near Cruce, one of the towns on the Isthmus of Panama where the cholera had recently broken out:—

I would rather not see such another scene as the interior of that hut presented. Its roof scarcely sheltered its wretched inmates from the searching rain; its floor was the damp, rank turf, trodden by the mules' hoofs and the muleteers' feet into thick mud. Around, in dirty hammocks, and on the damp floor, were the inmates of this wretched place, male and female, the strong and the sick together, breathing air that nearly choked me, accustomed as I had grown to live in impure atmosphere; for beneath the same roof the mules, more valuable to their master than his human servants, were stabled, their fore-feet locked, and beside them were heaps of saddles, packs, and harness. The groans of the sufferers and the anxiety and fear of their comrades were so painful to hear and witness, that for a few minutes I felt an almost uncontrollable impulse to run out into the stormy night, and flee from this plague-spot. But the weak feeling vanished, and I set about my duty. The mule-owner was so frightened that he did not hesitate to obey orders, and, by my directions, doors and shutters were thrown open, fires were lighted, and every effort made to ventilate the place; and then, with the aid of the frightened women, I applied myself to my poor patients. Two were beyond my skill. Death alone could give them relief. The others I could help. But no words of mine could induce them to bear their terrible sufferings like men. They screamed and groaned, not like women—for few would have been so craven-hearted—but like children; calling, in the intervals of violent pain, upon Jesus, the Madonna, and all the saints of heaven whom their lives had scandalised. I stayed with them until midnight, and then got away for a little time. But I had not long been quiet before the mule-master was after me again. The men were worse; would I return with him. The rain was drifting heavily on the thatched roof, as it only does in tropical climates, and I was tired to death; but I could not resist his appeal. He had brought with him a pair of tall, thick boots, in which I was to wade through the flooded fields, and with some difficulty I again reached the kraal. I found the worst cases sinking fast, one of the others had relapsed, while fear had paralysed the efforts of the rest. At last I restored some order; and, with the help of the bravest of the women, fixed up rude screens around the dying men. But no screens could shut out from the others their awful groans and cries for the aid that no mortal power could give them. So the long night passed away; first a deathlike stillness behind one screen, and then a sudden silence behind the other, showing that the fierce battle with death was over, and who had been the victor. And, meanwhile, I sat before the flickering fire, with my last patient in my lap—a poor, little, brown-faced orphan infant, scarce a year old, was dying in my arms, and I was powerless to save it. It may seem strange, but it is a fact, that I thought more of that little child than I did of the men who were struggling for their lives, and prayed very earnestly and solemnly to God to spare it. But it did not please Him to grant my prayer, and towards morning the wee spirit left this sinful world for the home above it had so lately left, and what was mortal of the little infant lay dead in my arms. Then it was that I began to think—how the idea first arose in my mind I can hardly say—that, if it were possible to take this little child and examine it, I should learn more of the terrible disease which was sparing neither young nor old, and should know better how to do battle with it. I was not afraid to use my baby patient thus. I knew its fled spirit would not reproach me, for I had done all I could for it in life—had shed tears over it, and prayed for it. It was cold grey dawn, and the rain had ceased, when I followed the man who had taken the dead child away to bury it, and bribed him to carry it by an unfrequented path down to the river side, and accompany me to the thick retired bush on the opposite bank. Having persuaded him thus much, it was not difficult, with the help of silver arguments, to convince him that it would be for the general benefit and his own if I could learn from this poor little thing the secret inner workings of our common foe; and ultimately he staid by me, and aided me in my first and last post-mortem examination. It seems a strange deed to accomplish, and I am sure I could not wield the scalpel or the substitute I then used now, but at that time the excitement had strung my mind up to a high pitch of courage and determination; and, perhaps, the daily, almost hourly, scenes of death had made me somewhat callous. I need not linger on this scene, nor give the readers the results of my operation; although novel to me, and decidedly useful, they were what every medical man well knows.

From the Isthmus of Panama we follow Mrs. Seacole to Jamaica, where she seems to have arrived in time to do battle with the yellow fever which raged so fiercely in the year 1853. Many trying scenes must the busy doctress have witnessed, and one is touchingly described in the following terms:—

For some time we thought him safe, but at last the most terrible symptoms of the cruel disease showed themselves, and he knew that he must die. His thoughts were never for himself, but for those he had to leave behind: all his pity was for them. It was trying to see his poor hands tremblingly penning the last few words of leave-taking—trying to see how piteously the poor worn heart longed to see once more the old familiar faces of the loved ones in unconscious happiness at home; and yet I had to support him while this sad task was effected, and to give him all the help I could. I think he had some fondness for me, or, perhaps, his kind heart feigned a feeling that he saw would give me joy; for I used to call him "My son—my dear child," and to weep over him in a very weak and silly manner perhaps.

He sent for an old friend, Captain S—; and when he came I had to listen to the dictation of his simple will—his dog to one friend, his ring to another, his books to a third, his love and kind wishes to all; and that over, my poor son prepared himself to die—a child in all save a man's calm courage. He beckoned me to raise him in the bed, and, as I passed my arms around him, he saw the tears I could not repress rolling down my brown cheeks, and thanked me with a few words. "Let me lay my

head upon your breast;" and so he rested, now and then speaking lowly to himself, "It's only that I miss my mother; but Heaven's will be done." He repeated this many times, until the heaven he obeyed sent him in its mercy forgetfulness, and his thoughts no longer wandered to his earthly home. I heard glad words feebly uttered as I bent over him—words about "Heaven—rest—rest"—a holy Name many times repeated; and then with a smile and a stronger voice, "Home! home!" And so in a little while my arms no longer held him.

We have no space to follow Mrs. Seacole through her subsequent adventures; and ultimately, after difficulties which to most women would have been insuperable, to the Crimea. The chapter, not the least curious one in the book, treating of the days and weeks of struggle to reach the seat of war, show her to be possessed of powers of energy and endurance that are rarely found in woman. Her self-imposed work began directly she reached the Crimea. The following scene occurred on the sick wharf at Balaklava, where the wounded were sent off in boats to the transports that were to convey them to Scutari:—

The very first day that I approached the wharf a party of sick and wounded had just arrived. Here was work for me, I felt sure. With so many patients the doctors must be glad of all the hands they could get. Indeed, so strong was the old impulse within me, that I waited for no permission; but seeing a poor artilleryman stretched upon a pallet, groaning heavily, I ran up to him at once, and eased the stiff dressings. Lightly my practised fingers ran over the familiar work, and well was I rewarded when the poor fellow's groans subsided into a restless uneasy mutter. Good help him! He had been hit in the forehead, and I think his sight was gone. I stooped down, and raised some tea to his baked lips (here and there upon the wharf were rows of little pannikins containing this beverage). Then his hand touched mine, and rested there; and I heard him mutter indistinctly, as though the discovery had arrested his wandering senses,

"Ha! this is surely a woman's hand."

I couldn't say much, but I tried to whisper something about hope and trust in God; but all the while I think his thoughts were running on this strange discovery. Perhaps I had brought to his poor mind memories of his home, and the loving ones there, who would ask no greater favour than the privilege of helping him thus; for he continued to hold my hand in his feeble grasp, and whisper "God bless you, woman! whoever you are; God bless you!" over and over again.

Perhaps, at first, the authorities looked askant at the woman-volunteer; but they soon found her worth and utility; and, from that time until the British army left the Crimea, Mother Seacole was a household word in the Camp. Our readers will very likely recollect mention made of her in Russell's despatches and in private letters. In her store on Spring Hill she attended many patients, nursed many sick, and earned the good will and gratitude of hundreds.

Nor were her exertions confined to Spring Hill. She was busy on the field wherever Death was reaping a larger harvest than usual. We find, from Colonel Pakenham the Adjutant-General of the British Army's own words, that "she frequently exerted herself in the most praiseworthy manner in attending wounded men, even in positions of great danger." While Mr. Russell records how (p. 17)—"I have seen her go down under fire with her little store of creature comforts for our wounded men; and a more tender or skilful hand about a wound or broken limb could not be found among our best surgeons. I saw her at the assault on the Redan, at the Tchernaya, at the fall of Sebastopol, laden—not with plunder, good old soul! but with wine, bandages, and food for the wounded or the prisoners."

But it is not only with the dark side of the war that this little book deals. Many details are given of the domestic life of the Camp—of the amusements of the soldiers in their leisure hours, while even with death and suffering raging around, something ludicrous was often to be seen. Thus, while Sebastopol was still blazing, we are told (p. 174) that some of the soldiers in the interior of the city "were dancing, yelling, and singing, some of them with Russian women's dresses fastened round their waists, and old bonnets stuck upon their heads. One of them had a silk skirt on, and torn lace upon his wrists, and he came mincingly up, holding the parasol above his head, and imitating the walk of an affected lady, to the vociferous delight of his comrades. And all this, and much more, in this fearful charnel-city, with dead and suffering on every side."

We can safely recommend this little book, and cordially agree with Mr. Russell, who, in the preface, writes:—

If singleness of heart, true charity, and Christian works—if trials and sufferings, dangers and perils, encountered boldly by a helpless woman on her errand of mercy in the camp and in the battle-field—can excite sympathy or move curiosity, Mary Seacole will have many friends and many readers.

UNPROTECTED FEMALES IN NORWAY, &c.; WITH SCANDINAVIAN
SKETCHES FROM NATURE. G. Routledge and Co.

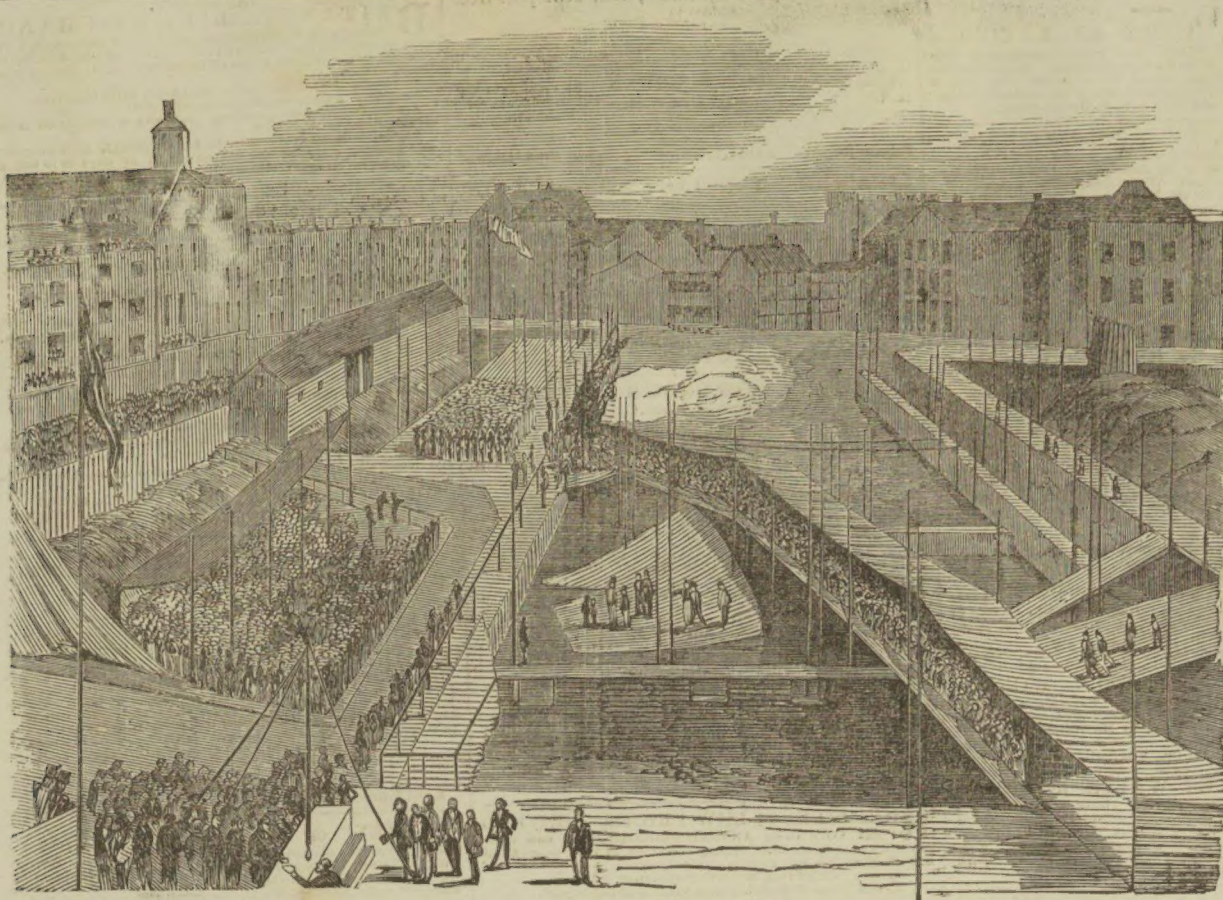
Many of our countrymen and countrywomen annually pay a visit to the pine-clad hills, placid lakes, foaming rivers, and verdant fields of rugged Norway. Now their excursions are about to commence, and, very appropriately, Messrs. Routledge have published a book to instruct them in the pleasantest way of travelling there. It is written by a spirited lady who, finding that "the only use of a gentleman in travelling is to look after the luggage," takes none, and dispenses with a male companion. Accompanied by her mother, each with a "carpet-bag," "waterproof, with straps, and no keg," she starts on her trip, and few gentlemen but may envy her success. The clothing of the ladies are "solid plaid skirts, tight polkas, woollen stockings, and hobnailed shoes," with "red flannel" unmentionables, acquired in the country; crowned with "straw hats and thin musquito veils." Each one has a complete change, and nothing more. So they visit Hamburg, Copenhagen, Gothenburg, Christiania, Bergen, and the remarkable fields and fiords of Norway. They travel by rail, in steamers, in the broad boats of the Norwegians, in little carts drawn by spirited little horses, and on horseback. They set out at all hours and stop at all kinds of places—mountain chalets and clergymen's houses and first-rate hotels—and arrive at all times. They penetrate into all the curious passes of the country. They catch their own "goose" before eating it for supper; they put on the dresses of the Norwegian women, and win their hearts by startling them in their own finery; they sketch both men and women, and delight them by the work. They find horses, without pre-ordering them, while fast gentlemen are left behind; they are charged only half; they are watched over and waited on with all the gallantry of chivalry and all the devotedness of affection. They get on all the better from being unprotected. Every Norwegian was civil, and tried to be of use to them. They took things quietly. Gentlemen they saw got into a passion. The stubborn Norsemen then stood against them, they lost their time, and had to pay extra. So the "unprotected females" found in their own smiles and the gallantry of the Norwegians all the security and attention they could desire.

To go without incumbrances is essential to pleasant travelling in Norway, as elsewhere. The recommendation can be easily, if unwillingly, followed; but the courageous heart, the cheerful spirit, the affable temper, eager to please and easily pleased, which distinguish the authoress, though more essential to pleasant travelling than the sacrifice of all the vanities of fashion, cannot be donned for the occasion. If not natural gifts, they can only be acquired by persevering practice; and those who have them not will find travelling not pleasant in Norway, nor anywhere else. The ladies lived with the people, saw much of them, and describe their manners and the scenery with minuteness and vivacity. The book is full of lively anecdotes and details, both moral and material, very useful to travellers. The authoress teaches by example, without obtruding the lesson that kindness in Norway, or in any other country, is the passport which all acknowledge. It is essential to win the hearts of strangers, and make travelling pleasant.

EXCURSION FROM WARRINGTON TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

This excursion of the working men and artisans of Warrington took place a few days since. The expenses were defrayed by twelve months' subscription of small sums weekly, the Rev. W. Quekett, Rector of Warrington, being treasurer of the fund. The rev. gentlemen had prepared for the occasion a series of lectures on the various Courts in the Crystal Palace, and accompanied the four hundred excursionists to London by railway, and thence to the Crystal Palace, where, having dined, they spent seven hours in the Palace and grounds, and then returned to town. The two following days were passed in visiting the chief public places in the metropolis; after which the party returned by special train to Warrington, having been greatly delighted with their trip.

* "Popular Music of the Olden Time: a Collection of Ancient Songs, Ballads, &c., illustrative of the National Music of England." By W. Chappell, F.S.A. Part IX.



THE PRINCE OF WALES LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE, DECEMBER 31, 1808.

THE LATE THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN.

THE ruins of this magnificent theatre are now fast disappearing; and last week, in the progress of the removal, an interesting memorial was brought to light. It appears that on Friday evening the workmen met with the foundation-stone which was laid by the Prince of Wales nearly nine-and-forty years since. The account states there is a hole in the stone in which was found a brass box, and in which had been deposited several of the current coins of the realm at the time the stone was deposited. The box was sent to his Grace the Duke of Bedford, the landlord of the estate, in consequence of a condition of sale, which was to the effect that if the box was found it should be given into his possession. The old, or first, Covent-garden Theatre was burned to the ground on Sept. 20, 1808, and twenty persons were killed in the ruins. Within little more than three months, on Saturday, Dec. 31, 1808, the first stone of the new theatre was laid with great ceremony, the scene of which we are enabled to present to our readers from a Sketch taken at the time by Mrs. Philip Martineau.

The event is thus recorded in the *Gentleman's Magazine*:—

The foundation-stone of the new theatre in Covent-garden, now erecting by Mr. Robert Smirke (now Sir Robert Smirke), was this day laid by

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as Grand Master of the Freemasons. The Duke of Sussex, Earl Moira, and others, attended in the procession. . . . It attracted a great concourse of people: all the adjacent streets and houses were thronged, and near a thousand spectators were admitted with tickets, and accommodated within the inclosed area in a temporary covered building erected opposite the foundation-stone. Another building was provided for the Freemasons, and a marquee for H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Above seven hundred workmen belonging to the building stood on surrounding scaffolds; military detachments guarded the exterior; and the grenadier company of the 1st Regiment of Guards was stationed within the ground at the Prince's entrance. The foundation-stone is at the north-east angle of the building—it is of an oblong shape, weighing nearly three tons; it hung suspended over a basement-stone, &c.

As an illustration of the fates and fortunes of the Covent-garden Theatres, this view possesses considerable interest, especially to collectors of our metropolitan theatrical history and topography.

The inscription on the foundation-stone is as follows:—"Long live George Prince of Wales." It is stated that the box will be sent to the Queen, who, on the destruction of the theatre, so sincerely exhibited her sympathy at the calamity; at the same time will be expressed a hope that her Majesty will allow the heir-apparent as Prince of Wales to deposit the same box in the next foundation-stone of the building.

LUSUS NATURÆ OF THE TROUT SPECIES.

We have been favoured by a gentleman with the annexed engraving of an extraordinarily-shaped trout, killed by him on Lough-na-minna, in the county of Clare, Ireland, on the 28th May last, while fishing with the artificial fly on that sporting piece of water. The fly taken was a green silk body, with wren hackle and partridge wing, tied on a No. 9 hook. Farlow, the fishing-tackle maker, 191, Strand, who tied the fly, has the trout (which is stuffed) at present on view for the inspection of the curious in those matters. An account of the fishing of this gentleman and his party is contained in the "Sporting Review" of this month. The lake in which this fish was taken is situated on the summit of one of the mountains, nearly 700 feet above the level of the sea, and about four miles from it. A stream runs from the lake by a circuitous route of eight or nine miles to the sea, into which it debouches as a smart river, the various mountain streams as it flows along swelling the volume of its waters. It is, at this time (July), full of white trout. Our



informant states, in speaking of fishing on this lake, that "the trout average about one pound each. In five days he and another person killed 220 trout, fully that average; and if the weather had been favourable he is confident he would have doubled that number; but cold, easterly winds, with constant rain overhead, prevented them from taking as freely as they would if the wind was in the opposite point and the weather settled. The lake, being wholly composed of springs, is perfectly pellucid; and the bottom is hard, being composed of slaty rocks of the brown stone formation. The bottom feeding in this lake is very good, from the quantity of subaqueous animalculæ amongst the stones and on weeds in the western end. Hence the flesh of the trout is as red as the best salmon, and as full of curd as a spring fish." The lake is but seldom fished, as there is no town within seven miles of it, and the only boat on it is the property of a gentleman with whom our informant was on a visit, and whose sporting lodge is situated within a short mile of its waters.

ISTHMUS OF SUEZ CANAL.—In a discussion on this topic in the House of Commons on Friday (last week), Mr. R. Stephenson said that, with regard to engineering difficulties, he might say that he had been over the whole ground, and had formed an opinion on the subject. The level of Leffère taken at the time of the French invasion of Egypt, in 1801, stated that there was a difference between the level of the Red Sea and the Mediterranean of 32 feet. Limon Bey had, therefore, suggested that the Canal of Ptolemy should be cleared out, that by means of it an opening between the two seas should be made. Along this canal it was calculated that the difference of level would cause a current running at the rate of four miles an hour—a rate sufficient to keep the canal scourd, but not so strong as to prevent the transit of steam-vessels both up and down. He went into the matter believing that the difference of level existed. The French engineers, however, with whom he was associated, made fresh observations upon the difference of the levels, and they discovered that no difference in reality existed, and that the world had for fifty years laboured under a misapprehension. When the true state of the case was known, the gentlemen with whom he acted came to the conclusion—a conclusion in which he concurred—that the project was not a sound one. Since that time he had walked over the isthmus, and considered the practicability of making a canal, and he had come to the conclusion that such a plan was—he would not say absurd or not feasible—but at least one which, although engineering operations might overcome its difficulty, was an unfeasible one in a practical point of view.

"RATTING" IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—At the early sitting on Friday, the 17th inst., a rat trotted with perfect nonchalance across the floor of the House of Commons from the Opposition to the Ministerial side, apparently unnoticed even by the vigilant eye of the Serjeant-at-Arms.

SORROWS.

I.
In spring or summer sleeps the Stone
All night, all morrow,—
When falls the snow, or storms are blown,
It feels no sorrow;—
Calm on the teeming soil it lies,
Untroubled by the earth or skies—
Oh, happy Stone, devoid of sorrow!

II.
In rain or sunshine lies the Clod,
The child of Sorrow;
Bearing to-day the gifts of God,
Cut down to-morrow;
Feeling the joy of summer flowers,
The pain of winter-frost and showers;—
Oh, luckless Clod, alive to sorrow!

III.
But oh! the delicate golden Harp,
A quiverer thro'!
Through all its woof one finger-warp
May weave shrill sorrow;—
It feels the ray of sun or moon,
The breeze can jar it out of tune;—
Oh, mournful Harp, that throbs to sorrow!

IV.
But rather than the Stone, unworn
By night or morrow,
I'd be the Clod that bears the corn,
And suffers sorrow;
Or, better still, the Harp, whose strains
Have countless joys as well as pains—
Oh, passionate Harp of Joy and Sorrow!

CHARLES MACKAY.

AUSTRALIAN WINES.—From New South Wales most favourable accounts are received of the vintage for the present year. With respect to any extensive exports of Australian wines, it is stated that we must entertain no hopes for some years to come. The demand, both in that colony and Victoria, for colonial wines at present exceeded the means of supply. The steady increase of vineyards in almost every part of the colony promises that wine will, however, before long become a valuable commodity in the articles of exportation, and vie in value with its wool, tallow, gold, and coal.

THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.—The following very curious letter—sent by the King of Calabar in answer to a British merchant who had written to his Majesty to know whether any of his people would engage themselves as free labourers—was read by Lord Brougham in the House of Peers on Friday (last week):—

Old Calabar, June 5, 1850.
Dear Sir,—I received your kind letter by the *Magistrate*, through Captain Todd, and by your wish I now write you to say we be glad for supply you with slaves. I have spoken with King Archibury, and all Calabar gentleman, and be very glad to do the same. Regard to free emigration we man no will go for himself. We shall buy them as we do that time slave trade him. We be very glad for them man to come back again to Calabar; but I fear that time they go for West India he no will come back her. We have all agreed to charges four boxes of brass and copper rod for man, woman, and children, but shall not be able to supply the quantity you mention. I think we shall be able to get 400 or 500 for one vessel, and be able to load her in three or four months, for we cannot get them all ready to wait for the ship. She will have to come and take them on board as they come. We have no place on shore to keep them. The ship will have to convey to me and Archibury, but no other gentlemen—say 10,000 copper for each town in cloth or any other article of trade. I shall be very glad if the term I mention will suit you, for we shall not be able to do it at a less price, and man to be paid for with rods. I shall be very glad when you write me again to make arrangements with your captain what time the ship must come, hoping you are quite well, believe me to be,
My dear Sir, your humble servant,
ETO HONESTY KING.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

It is reported at Brussels that her Majesty Queen Victoria, after visiting the Emperor and Empress of the French early in September, will proceed to Brussels, where her Majesty will remain for a few days, on a visit to King Leopold.

At Turin the Minister of Foreign Affairs recently gave a grand banquet to Admiral Lyons. All the Ministers and the British Ambassador were among the guests. A splendid ball took place at Court on the following day in his honour.

Drum-Major Wm. Loomes, 2nd battalion Coldstream Guards, who has for some time past attended at Buckingham Palace for the purpose of teaching Prince Arthur the art of military drum-beating, has received from her Majesty a handsome gold watch, also a portrait of his young pupil.

It is rumoured in the Government circles that—owing to the business before the House of Commons, and the debate which, in all probability, will arise on Indian affairs—Parliament will not be prorogued before the 20th proximo.

The Government have ordered Father Conway and others implicated in the doings at the Mayo election to be prosecuted at the Mayo Assizes.

Mr. James Elliott, of the Edinburgh Institution, has been appointed to the Professorship of Pure and Mixed Mathematics in Queen's College, Liverpool.

Arrangements have been entered into by which the works of the Worcester and Hereford Railway will be resumed immediately.

A considerable quantity of fine new wheat received from Blidah and Bona, in Algeria, was last week offered for sale in the corn market of Paris.

Lieutenant Craven has received orders from the United States' Navy Department to prepare an expedition for the survey of the Isthmus of Darien, with the view to the facilities for a ship canal. The expedition is expected to start in October next.

The Swiss National Council has rejected the amnesty demanded for M. Siegwart Muller, formerly chief of the Sonderbund. The Council of the States has given its approbation to the new constitution which the canton of Fribourg has lately given itself.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* publishes a law authorising the Government to make the necessary repairs and alterations on the Castello Valentino, near Turin, in order to adapt it to the periodical exhibition of the manufactured produce of the kingdom. The next exhibition of this kind is to be opened on the 10th of May, and to last until the 20th of June.

The Society of Arts have fixed to visit Manchester in a body for a week, commencing the 3rd of August. A large number of mills and factories will be thrown open for the inspection of the members during their stay.

It is rumoured that a battery for the protection of the Clyde will be erected on a point on the Roseneath shore, to the eastward of Kilcregan. It will command the river from Cloch to Dumbarton Castle, and will be mounted with formidable ordnance.

The British Museum is soon to be enriched by a new collection of antiquities, the fruit of the researches instituted at Budrum, the ancient Halicarnassus, by Mr. C. Newton, her Majesty's Consul at Mitylene.

An official statistical table recently published at Naples gives the following information:—The population of the Neapolitan States proper is 6,886,020; that of Sicily, 2,231,030.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Sir Robert Schomburgk, Knight, to be her Majesty's Consul at Bangkok, in Siam; Keith Edward Abbott, Esq., to be her Majesty's Consul General at Tabreez; and Richard Stevens, Esq., to be her Majesty's Consul at Teheran.

Accounts from the moors in Renfrewshire and in Argyleshire state that grouse are scarce but remarkably healthy, and that black game will be plentiful. Hares are numerous in the low grounds.

A correspondent of the *Morning Post* states that already the Emperor of the French has imported several cargoes of negroes into Cayenne.

The Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, who was in Perthshire last season, passed through Inverness last week on his way to Caithness, to look at estates in that county, with a view to purchasing a Highland property. He was accompanied by Sir John Logan.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of Colonel George de Rottenburgh and of Colonel Edward Marcarthur to be Ordinary Members of the Civil Division of the Third Class, or Companions of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

The Spanish journals state that an important layer of auriferous quartz has just been discovered in the Sierra de Canelas, province of Almeria.

The New York Board of Aldermen has adopted the proposition to send an agent to England to induce the proprietors of the steam-ship *Great Eastern* to send that vessel to New York.

The Admiralty have ordered the *Adelaide*, *Sarah Sands*, and *Babina* steamers to be surveyed, previous to accepting them for the conveyance of 1500 troops from England to Hong-Kong.

The authorities at the Horse Guards have determined that no women or children are to accompany the regiments now under orders to leave this country for India.

The Turkish Government has resolved to send several engineers to Widdin to complete the construction of the external works. In order to prevent the Danube from constantly undermining the principal rampart, massive constructions will be built to protect the works. The guns for arming the batteries have already arrived at Widdin, and there are among them several mortars of a very large calibre.

H.M.S. *Agamemnon* it was expected would leave the Thames on Saturday (to-day). The work of shipping the Transatlantic telegraph cable terminated on Wednesday.

A Parliamentary paper, published on on Wednesday morning, informs us that a further sum of £400,000 will have to be voted this year towards the reimbursement to the East India Company of a moiety of the expenses of the war with Persia.

The minutes of evidence taken before the Mayo County Election Committee have been issued in a huge blue book of 544 pages. The evidence taken before the Galway Committee is also published.

The Lord Lieutenancy of Oxfordshire, vacant by the death of the late Duke of Marlborough, will be conferred on the present Duke.

In pursuance of a remonstrance on the part of the Duke of Cambridge, relative to the high play at the Army and Navy Club, the committee propose to reduce the stakes and points at *carté*, *lanquet*, &c., to a maximum of 5s.

A duel with pistols, attended with fatal consequences, took place a few days ago between two students of the University of Griefswald, in Prussia. One of them, shot through the heart, immediately expired.

The indictment against the Mayor of Sligo and his deputies and poll-clerks is a formidable affair. The offence charged is "a conspiracy to procure, by corrupt and fraudulent means, a fictitious majority of votes for Mr. Somers." The indictment comprises seven counts, the first containing twenty-five overt acts; and the document is spread over twenty-two skins of parchment.

The estimate of the sum required to be voted in the year 1857, ending March, 1858, for the adjustment of the account with the Hon. East India Company, for the expedition in connection with the last war in China (from 1840 to 1843), is fixed at £590,693.

The Peninsular and Oriental Company's steam-ship *Indus*, Captain R. W. Evans, sailed on Monday for Gibraltar, Malta, and Alexandria, with the heavy portion of the India and China mails, sixty-nine first and twenty-one second-class passengers, and a full general cargo. She also took out 2056 boxes of specie and jewellery, value £542,325 1s. 4d.

From a Parliamentary paper, published this week, it appears that the amount of prize-money realised by the seizure of Russian ships during the war was £72,000, of which upwards of £41,000 was distributed in the financial year 1856-57, leaving £30,330 balance.

On Tuesday morning the non-commissioned officers and privates of the 97th Regiment were privileged with a visit to the Crystal Palace by Lieutenant-Colonel Ingram and the officers of the corps previous to embarking for India.

A friend of the missionary cause has made a munificent donation of £10,000 to the Church Missionary Society, in order to enable the committee to extend the sphere of their operations. The society has also been endowed from the same source with a sum in the funds equivalent to an annual subscription of £1000 for three years and a half.

As the laws of storms have been now so thoroughly investigated, and as the rain clouds travel very slowly, it has been suggested that use might be made of the Electric Telegraph in communicating meteorological intelligence, so as to be of great importance to the agriculturist; and means have been taken in Germany to effect that object during the sowing and harvest seasons.

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